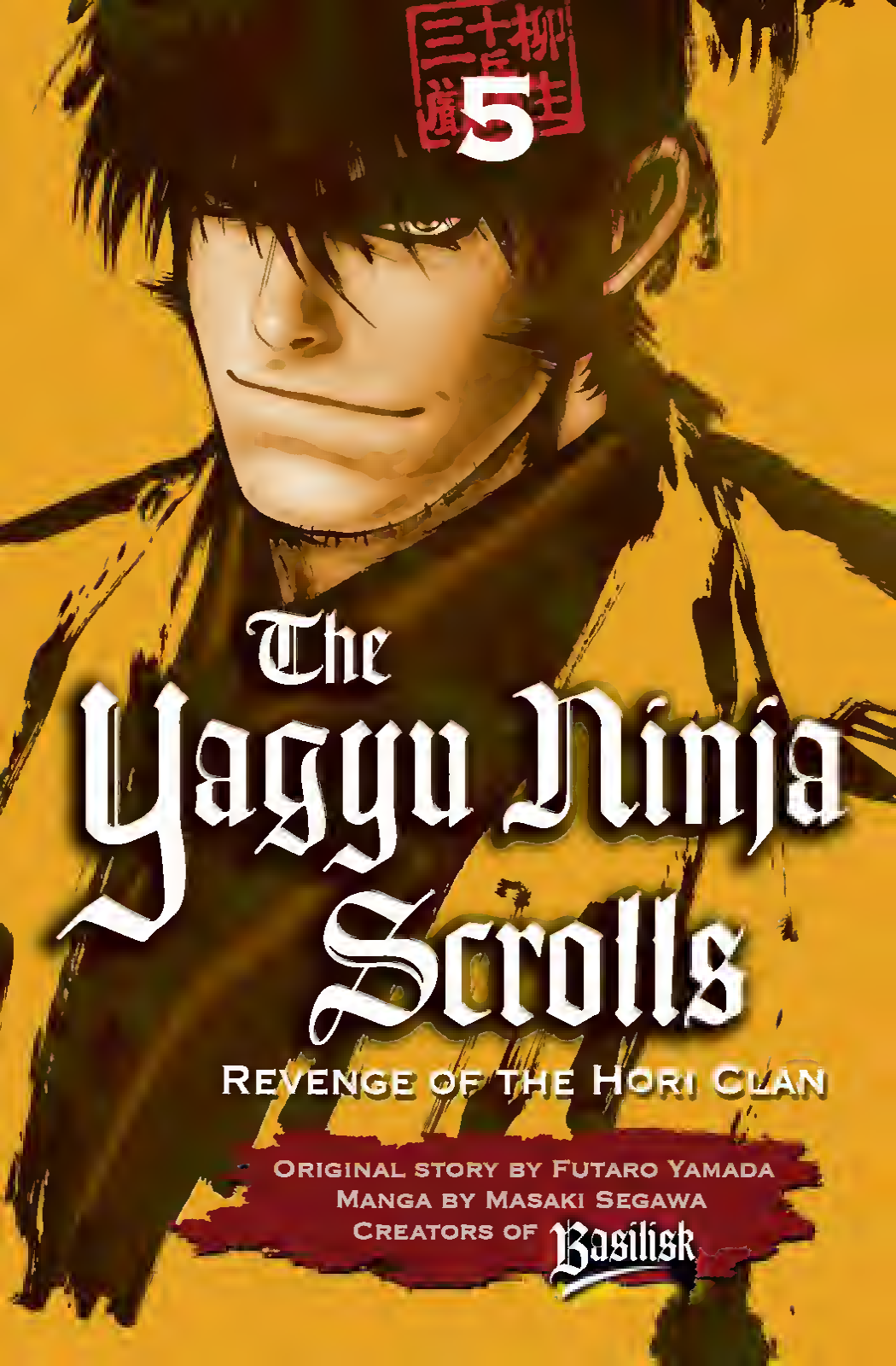

5
The
Yagyu Ninja
Scrolls
Revenge of the Hori Clan
Original story by Futaro Yamada
Manga by Masaki Segawa
Creators of Basilisk

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls

Revenge of the Hori Clan

ORIGINAL STORY BY FŪTARO YAMADA
MANGA BY MASAKI SEGAWA

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY GEMMA COLLINGE
LETTERED BY B. HAN

5

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls: Revenge of the Hori Clan volume 5 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls: Revenge of the Hori Clan volume 5 copyright © 2006 by the Estate of Futaro Yamada and Masaki Segawa
English translation copyright © 2006 by the Estate of Futaro Yamada and Masaki Segawa

All rights reserved

Publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd.

First published in Japan in 2006 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo

Translator/adapter: Gemma Collinge
Letterer: B. Han

Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls

5

ORIGINAL STORY BY
FŪTARO YAMADA

MANGA BY
MASAKI SEGAWA

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls
INTRODUCTION OF CHARACTERS
THE SURVIVING WOMEN OF THE HORI CLAN
OKEI
OSAWA
OTORI
OFUE
OSHINA
SAKURA
OCHIE
YAGYÛ JYÛBEI MITSUYOSHI
WASHINOSU RENSUKE
USES KEMPO
HIRAGA MAGOBEI
REVENGE ACCOMPLISHED
THE AIZU SEVEN SPEARS
KATÔ AKINARI
AIZU CLAN HERO
KÔRO GINSHIRÔ
MANIPULATES A MYSTERIOUS NET
DAIDÔJI TESSAI
REVENGE ACCOMPLISHED
GUS KU JY HOSHI
COMMANDS THREE GIANT DOGS
URUSHIDO KÔSHICHIRÔ
SWORDSMAN
SHIBA ICHIGAHBO
WIELDS A WHIP
SYNOPSIS: LED BY THE SWORD PRODIGY OF THE PERIOD, YAGYU JYUBEI MITSUYOSHI. THE SEVEN WOMEN OF THE HORI CLAN THAT WAS SAVAGELY MURDERED HAVE DEFEATED DAIDÔJI TESSAI (WIELDS A SICKLE AND CHAIN) AND HIRAGA MAGOBEI (WIELDS A SPEAR) OF THE AIZU SEVEN SPEARS. JYUBEI HAS HIDDEN HIS FACE BY WEARING A MYSTERIOUS NANNYA MASK AND SO HOW THE OTHER SEVEN SPEARS ARE TRYING TO DISCOVER HIS IDENTITY. MEANWHILE, JYÛBEI AND OKEI HAVE INFILTRATED THE KATÔ MANSION BY PRETENDING TO BE BRIDE AND GROOM. THEY ARE TRAPPED IN A PIT OF CORPSES, AT THE MERCY OF LORD AKINARI AND THE SEVEN SPEARS. BUT THE HORI WOMEN HAVE AMBUSHED THE MANSION AND HAVE TAKEN AKINARI HOSTAGE. WHO WILL WIN THIS DEADLY BATTLE OF WILLS?!

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls 5

CONTENTS

STORY 31 WATERY GRAVE (3) 5
STORY 32 WATERY GRAVE (4) 25
STORY 33 WATERY GRAVE (5) 41
STORY 34 HUMILIATION 63
STORY 35 HUMILIATION (2) 83
STORY 36 DOG AND MONKEY TÔKAIJI TEMPLE 101
STORY 37 DOG AND MONKEY TÔKAIJI TEMPLE (2) 121
STORY 38 GIFT FROM EDO 143
STORY 39 GIFT FROM EDO (2) 163
STORY 40 JOURNEY NORTH 183

ABOUT THE AUTHORS 201
TRANSLATION NOTES 202
PREVIEW OF VOLUME 6 207

THE VENGEANCE OF THE HORI CLAN?
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS!
UPSTART CONCU-BINES!
...WHO ---
ARE YOU PEO-PLE?
SU

STORY 31: WATERY GRAVE (3)

CLATTER
SHRRUP
SAKURA

GRIND
カラ
カラ

SWISH
ぶん
SWISH
ぶん
SWISH
ぶん
!?
THAT VOICE!
SWOOSH
す
SU

YOU WERE THE ONE...
...WHO STEPPED ON MY ASS EARLIER!
SHRRUP
BOUNCE
BOUNCE
CREAK CREAK
CREAK
IT HURT SO BADLY!
RAGE
THIS CAN'T BE POSSIBLE!
TWITCH
OFUE...
...SAKURA, OCHIE...
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.

DON'T MOVE!
YOU'LL BE NEXT!
IF YOU MOVE THEN I WILL SHOOT AKINARI
BOW BOW
キリキリ
ピタ
STOP
NGH...
D-DON'T MOVE NO-BODY'S MOV-ING
IT'D BE BEST NOT TO MOVE
IF WE STARTLE ONE OF THE GIRLS THEN THIS COULD TURN NASTY
HMPH ...
THUD
ドサッ

TONIGHT WE WATCHED THE KATÔ MANSION FROM AFAR...
YOU HAVE NO IDEA?
HOW ON EARTH DID YOU GET IN HERE?
VERY BUSY WITH THE WEDDING, WEREN'T WE!
BOW
BOW
キリ
キリ
BOW
キリ
.....

WE SAW THE LITTER BEING CARRIED INTO THE MANSION.
THE BRIDE AND THE GROOM CAME FROM THE TORIYAMA ACUPUNCTURE HOUSE.
BOW
そっ
WHEN THE WOMAN FLED FROM THE BACK GATE...
WE THOUGHT THAT WE HAD IT... BUT...

THEN.
STRAIGHT-AWAY THE SEVEN SPEARS STARTED PURSUIT.

...
TONIGHT...WE WERE SAVED BY A PERSON CALLED OSONO, A LADY WHO HAD RECENTLY ARRIVED.
BUT...
WE WANTED TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON INSIDE THE MANSION, BUT...
WE CAUGHT THE WOMAN WHO WAS FLEEING DOWN THE BACK ALLEYS.
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
...
SLIP
I DON'T KNOW...
...THEN... AFTER THAT...

WH-WHAT ARE YOU...
HUH...
CHING
カキ
WE'RE GOING...
...INSIDE THE KATÔ MANSION...
NOD
コク

SLICE
TUG
THUD
...I TOOK HER HAIR...
AFTER CHANGING INTO AN IDENTICAL KIMONO...

WE PURPOSELY JUMPED OUT IN FRONT OF THE KATÔ PURSUERS AND WERE CAUGHT.
YOU THREW US INTO THE WAREHOUSE WITH YOUR OWN HANDS—
WITHOUT YOU NOTICING...

HEH HEH
THEN I FOUND THOSE THREE WOMEN COLLAPSED UNDER THE STAIRS.
SO WE AVOIDED YOUR NOTICE.
YOUR ATTENTION WAS DIVERTED OUTSIDE.
SWITCHING POSITIONS WASN'T HARD AT ALL....

THUD
CREAK
PLONK
THE REMAINING THREE ARE HERE!
WE SUCCESS-FULLY DECEIVED YOU...

AND NOW AKINARI'S LIFE IS OURS!
NGH...
.....
CAN YOU...
...SHOOT?
.....
THREE BOWS AGAINST SIX MEN
AS SOON AS YOU FIRE... YOU'LL BE TORN APART.
SLIP

THAT WAS OUR GOAL FROM THE BEGINNING!
WE'RE ONLY AFTER ONE MAN!

ONLY AKINARI!
BOW
キー
キー
BOW
BOW
キー
NGH.
W-WAIT! I'VE GOT IT!
DASH
WE'LL KILL EACH OTHER.
WE'LL KILL EACH OTHER, SO LET'S STOP THIS NOW.
BOW
BOW
BOW
STOP MESS-ING AROUND.

THEN WE'LL LET THE TWO THAT ARE IN THE PIT, LEAVE SAFELY...
HOW ABOUT IT! NOT A BAD OFFER?
HEH HEH
HOW ABOUT ...
IF YOU PUT DOWN YOUR BOWS, THEN...
BOW
BOW
BOW
BOW

TWITCH

STORY 31 END

IF YOU PUT DOWN YOUR BOWS, THEN...
WE'LL LET THE TWO THAT ARE IN THE PIT, LEAVE SAFELY...
HOW ABOUT IT! NOT A BAD OFFER?
THERE IS NO WAY THAT WE COULD PUT FAITH IN YOUR FALSE PROMISES!
OCHIE
WHAT!
AIZU SEVEN SPEARS GUSOKU JYONOSHIN

OFUE
BRING THE STRAW ROPE THAT'S HANGING ON THE BACK WALL OUTSIDE.
?!

STORY 32: WATERY GRAVE (4)

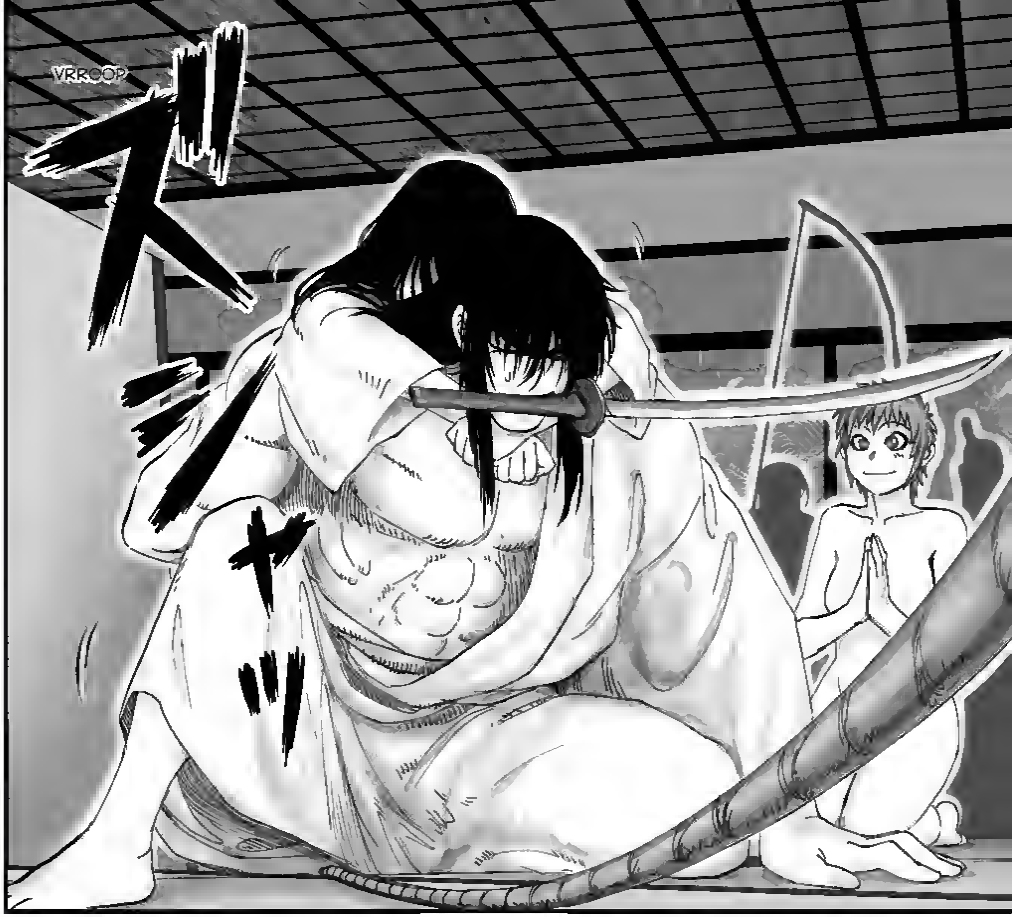
!!
WE'LL TIE THEM ALL TOGETHER.
!!
THEN TIE UP THEIR HANDS AND NECKS.
LORD OF AIZU KATO AKINARI
IF YOU DISOBEY US AT ALL THEN WE SHALL KILL AKINARI!
YE-YES!
OFUE, HURRY.
SAKURA
BULLSHIT! YOU THINK WE'LL LET YOU DO THIS TO US!
CLENCH
AIZU SEVEN SPEARS, KABA GINSHIRŌ
HEY, HEY! WAIT A MOMENT!

TIE IT TIGHT SO THEY CAN'T GET OUT EASILY.
POINT
POINT
TUG
DONE IT! OCHIE-SAMA.
YANK
YANK
YANK
AIZU SEVEN SPEARS, HASHIMOTO BENSUKE
FUMP
AIZU SEVEN SPEARS, URUSHIDO KOSHICHIRO
AIZU SEVEN SPEARS, SHIBA ICHIGANBO

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
GRRR
イラッ
HEHE
YOU LORDS...
TIED UP AND DRAGGED AROUND LIKE THIS.
OFUE

YES, OCHIE-SAMA!
UNDER-STOOD.
IT'S MISAWA GENTATSU-SAMA.
DROP THE ROPE DOWN THE HOLE AND GIVE THE SIGN TO GENTATSU-SAMA.
OFUE.

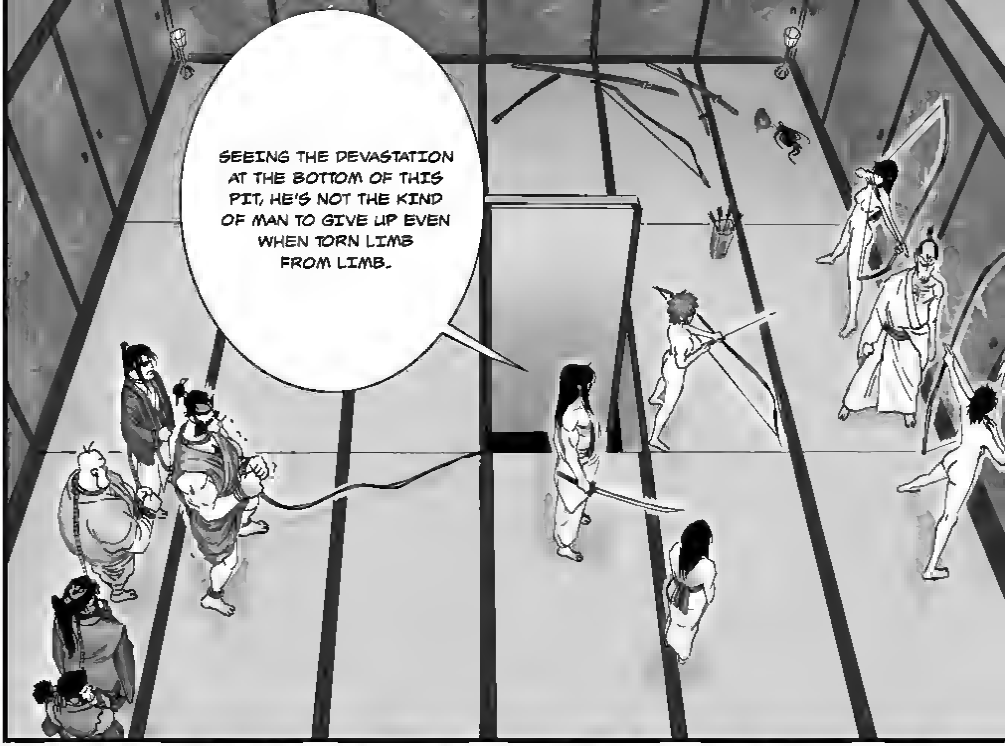
!!
PULL
ギ
ー
っ
DROP
ポイ
I'M HERE TO RESCUE YOU.
GENTATSU-SAMA! MISAWA GENTATSU-SAMA!
SWING
ユラ
PULL YOUR-SELF UP.
SWING
ユラ
TAKE THE ROPE.
PULL
ギ
ー
っ
NGH...
PULL
ギ
PULL
ー
っ


VRROOP

... DEFEATED HUH?
YAGYU JYUBEI MITSUYOSHI
VS
GRIN

HEH
HEH

IT WAS...
...CLOSE!
GRIN
IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE US LOOKING OUT FOR YOU, THEN WHO KNOWS WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED!
I THOUGHT SOMETHING STRANGE WAS GOING ON.
I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED THAT YOU WOULD HAVE GOT IN.
I HAVE NO EXCUSES!
HEE-HEE
WELL.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH OUR SO-CALLED DAIMYÔ...
.....


SEEING THE DEVASTATION AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PIT, HE'S NOT THE KIND OF MAN TO GIVE UP EVEN WHEN TORN LIMB FROM LIMB.

I THOUGHT THAT'S WHAT YOU WOULD SAY.

WE WILL DO AS YOU WISH.

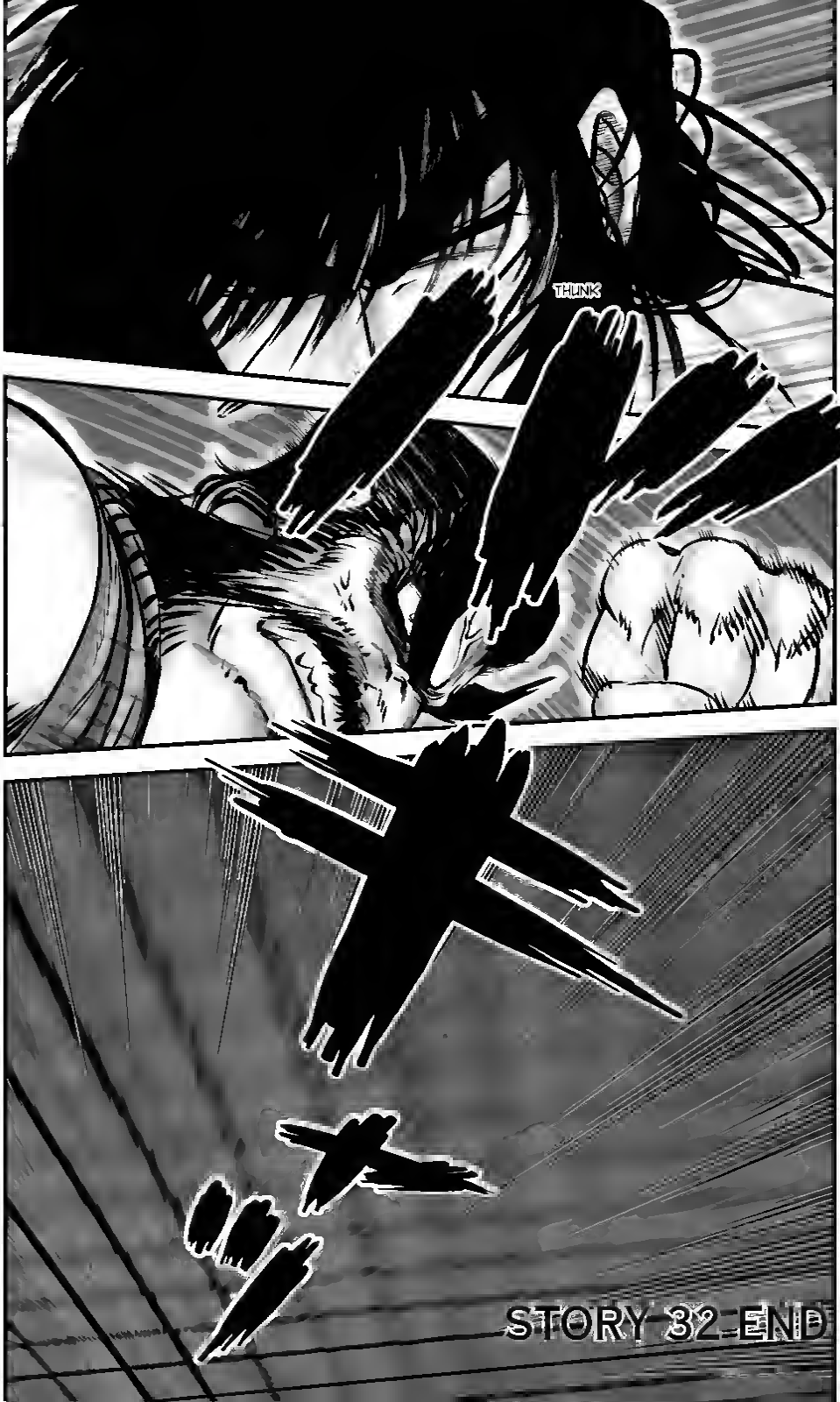
I WOULD LIKE TO STICK TO THE ORIGINAL PLAN.

WA-
WAIT!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH OUR LORD?!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ALREADY?
WE'RE GOING TO DRAG HIM TO THE TAKEBASHI GATE...
AND EXPOSE HIM TO PUBLIC RIDICULE.

ARGH!
I CAN'T TAKE
THIS...
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
...ANYMORE!
WA-
WAIT.
REN-
SUKE!
!?
!!

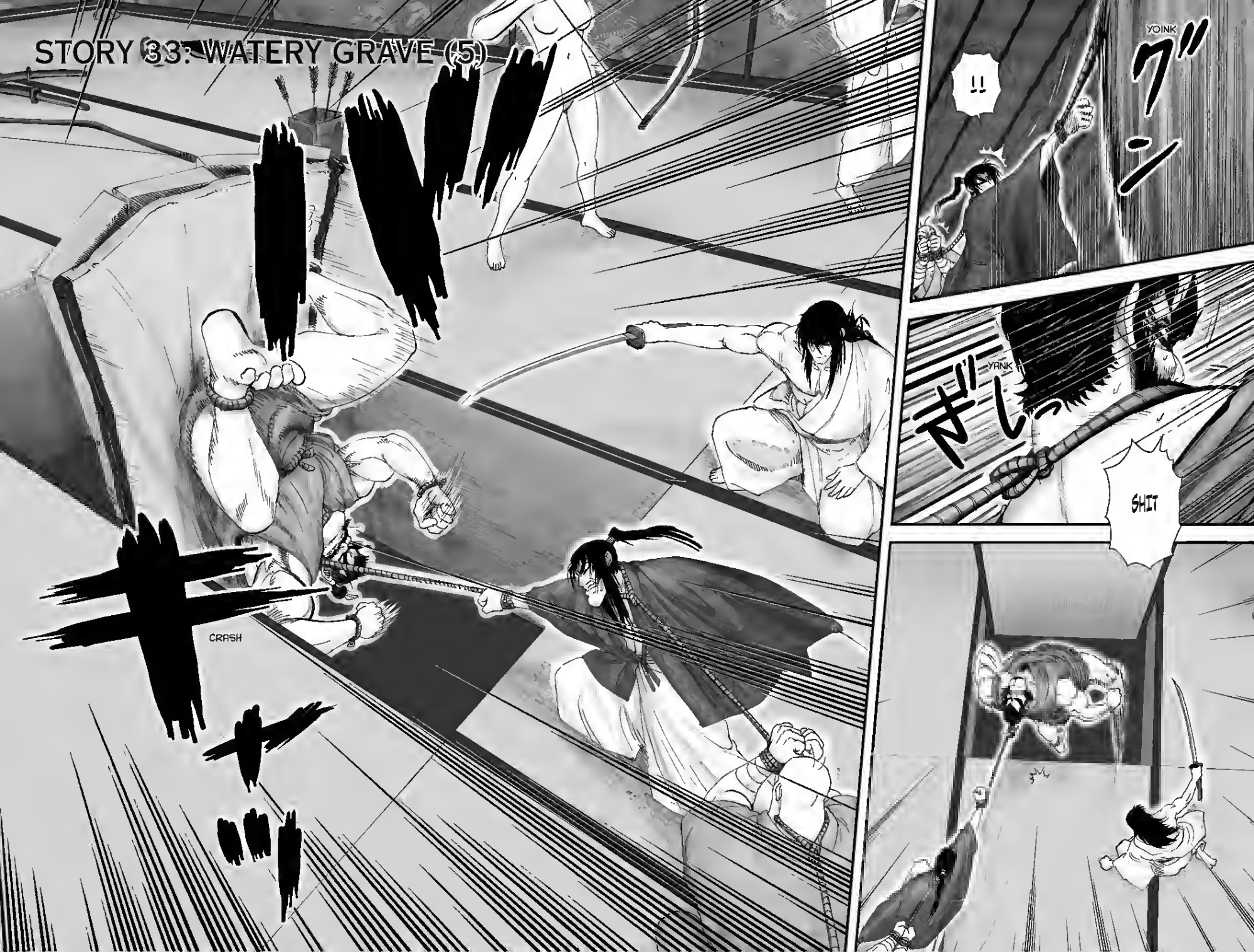
RAAAR
RAAWWWRR
TWANG
PYOON
DADADADA
RAAR
BOING
THWACK

UAAA
AAAHHH
SWISH
BANG
SNAP
SNAP
SWING
SWOOSH


THUNK
STORY 32 END

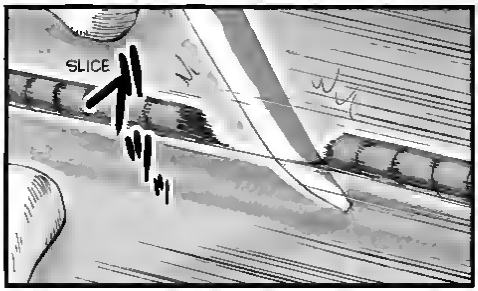
二十
公衛生
嚴

UAAA
AAAHHH
SWISH
NGH
SHUP
THUD
?!
WHOOSH
RWUP
!!


STORY 33: WATERY GRAVE (5)
!!
YOINK
ヴ"
ン
YANK
ぎしっ
SHIT
CRASH

ARGH!
DO DO
DRAG
WOAH!
NGH!
TWOOO
DO
YANK
GASP

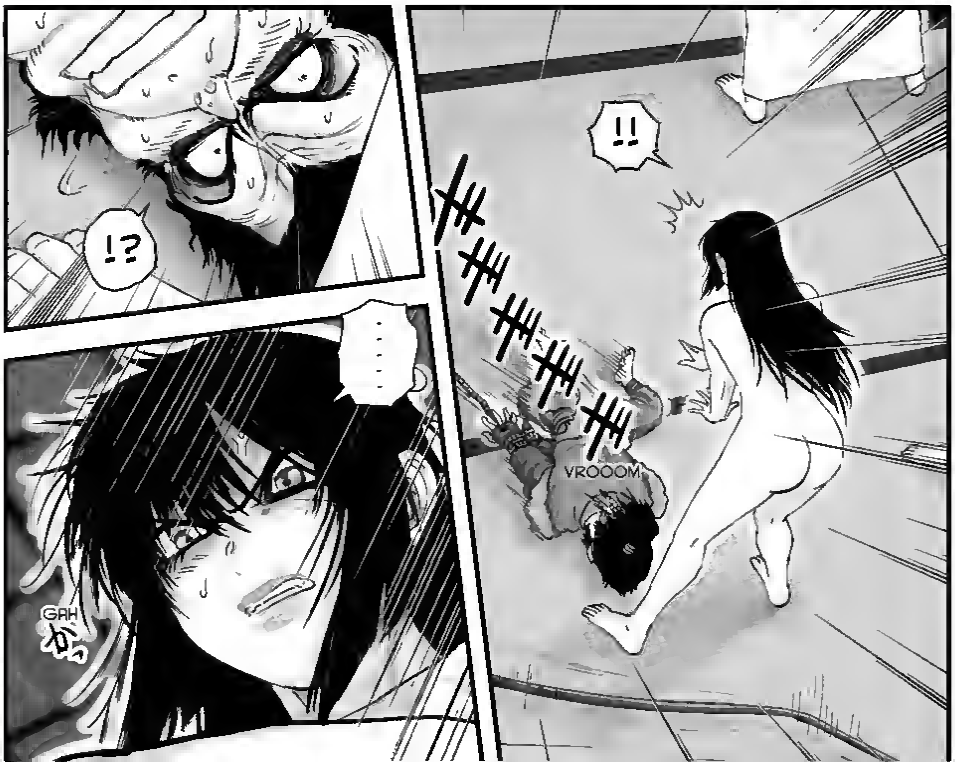
ONE BY ONE YOU'RE GOING TO OBEDIENTLY FALL IN.
NGH, NGH ...
NO...
FWOOO
FWOOO
PULL...
DON'T MOVE!
EITHER THAT OR YOU'LL HANG YOUR COMRADES BELOW.
AH ...
QUIVER


SLICE

!!
UWAH!
DO DO DO

I HAVE A USE FOR YOU.
JYŌNO-SHIN
QUIVER
HUH
?!

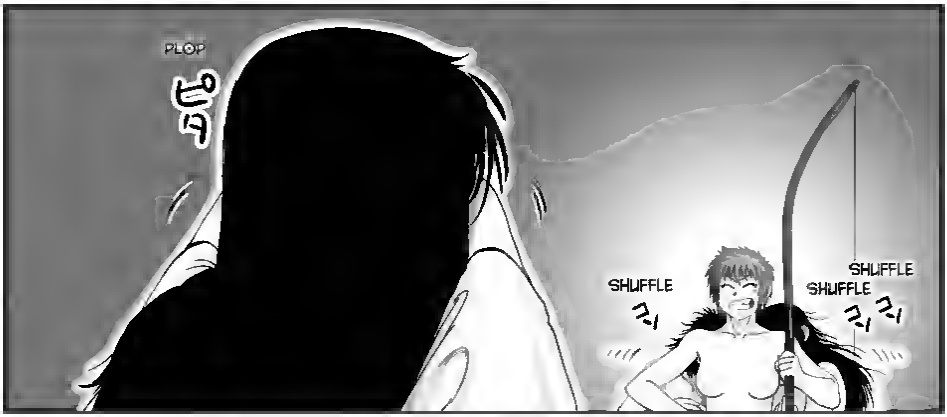
FWWOOOOOP
YOU BASTARD!
WHACK
ACK


!?
. . . . .
GRH
!!
VROOOM

WELL..
HAH
ハハ
AAAAAAH!
WHACK
AGH!
SQUASH
どさっ
HAH
ACK
THOMP
THUD

YES!
UNDERSTOOD, SIR!
IT'S TIME THAT WE MADE OUR RETREAT.
TUG
ｸｲ
ｯ

IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF YOU COULD WEAR SOMETHING.
OKE!
UMM... THAT IS...


PLOP
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE

THERE SHOULD BE SOME KIMONO LEFT ON THE SECOND FLOOR...
UM... OCHIE-SAMA.

TAP
TAP
TAP
SLIDE
WIGGLE
SHUFFLE
OH YES.
THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE WOMEN WHO'VE TRIED TO RUN AWAY AND HAVE BEEN CAUGHT.
RUN AWAY AGAIN.
TAKE EVERYONE WITH YOU.
YES, SIR.

CLAW
CAN... SEE?
YO... YOU
WITH MY MIND'S EYE.
YES, I CAN SEE. YOUR MONKEY FACE.

I CAN SEE.
THE SEVEN SPEARS WHO LISTEN TO THE NOBLE KATÔ.
ONE BY ONE... BEATEN DOWN...
...
SHIVER!
AND THEN BEAUTIFUL SOFT WOMEN...

THEN, TELL THE GUARDS AT THE BACK...
...EXACTLY LIKE THIS.
WELL THEN, JYÔNOSHIN.
FIRST, PUT A CHAIN AROUND TENMARU'S NECK WITH YOUR OWN HANDS.

?

CLINK
カチャ
CLINK
カチャ
CLINK
カチャ

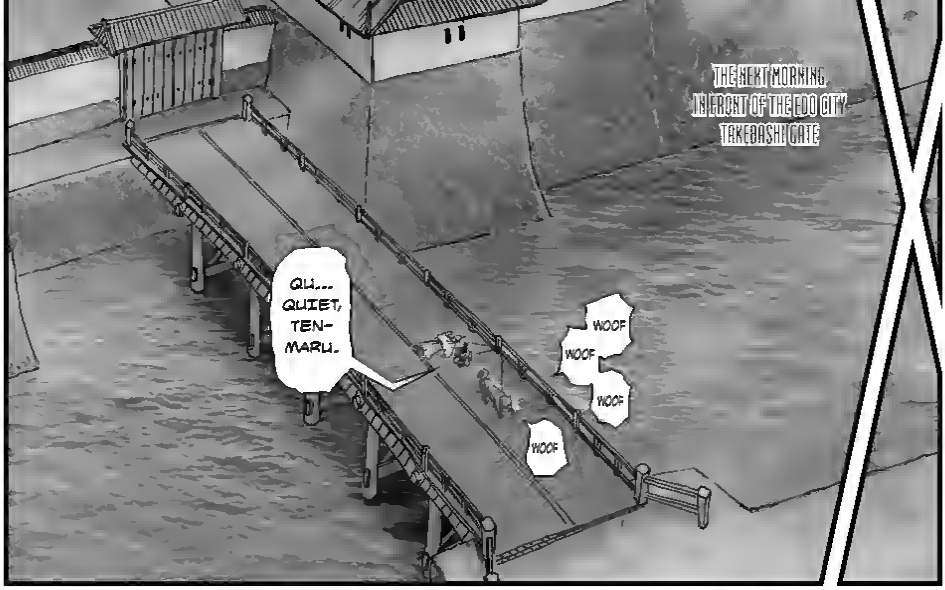
JU... JUST A MOMENT AGO OUR LORD WAS OVERCOME WITH A SUDDEN SICKNESS.
FOLLOWING MISAWA GENTATSU OF HONGOYUSHIMA'S RECOMMEN-DATION...
HE IS GOING TO THE TORIYAMA HOUSE FOR ACUPUNC-TURE!
GET THE HORSES AT ONCE!

THAT'S AN ORDER! MOVE!
HUH! SHUT UP!
OUR... LORD, SICK?
BUT...IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT! THE ACUPUNCTURIST...
WHINE
WHINE
JINGLE
JINGLE
JINGLE
...

WHINE
WHINE
WHINE
SHAAA
SHAAA
OPEN THE GATES, NOW!
THESE ARE THE ORDERS!
SHUT UP! STOP QUESTIONING ME!
WE ARE FINDING THIS HARD TO BELIEVE...
LORD GUSOKU...

SHAAAH
アアアア
アア
SHAKE
カポッ
SHAKE
カポッ
SHAKE
カポッ

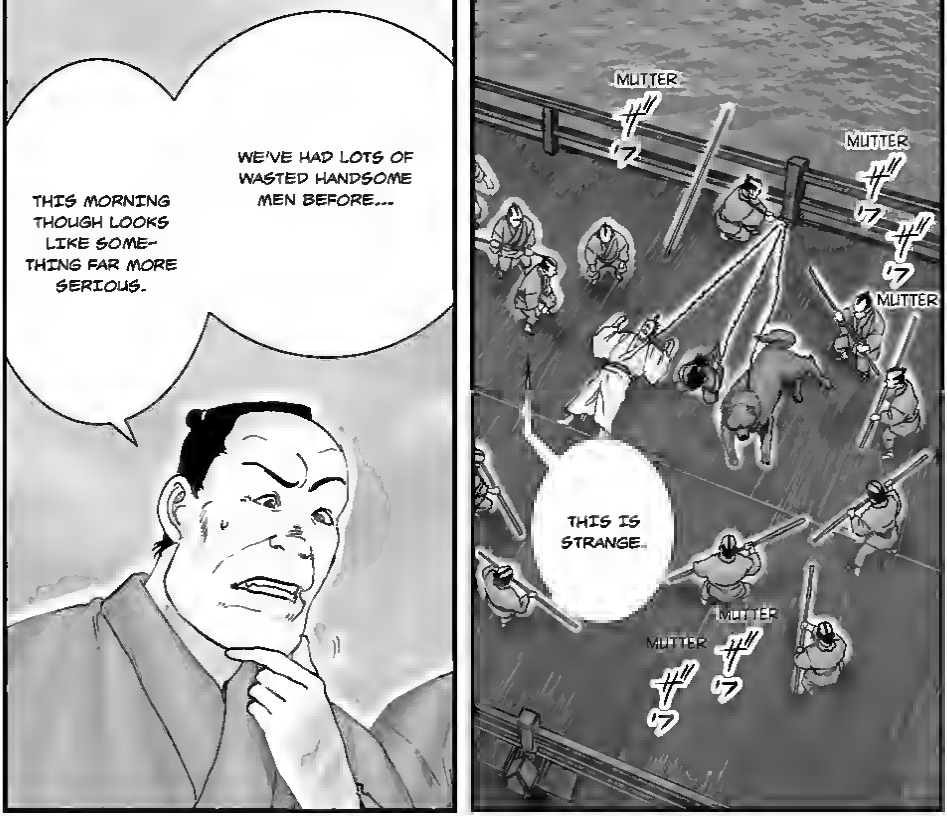
SHARAN
.....


THE NEXT MORNING,
IN FRONT OF THE EDO CITY
TAKEBASHI GATE
QU... QUIET, TEN-MARU.
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF

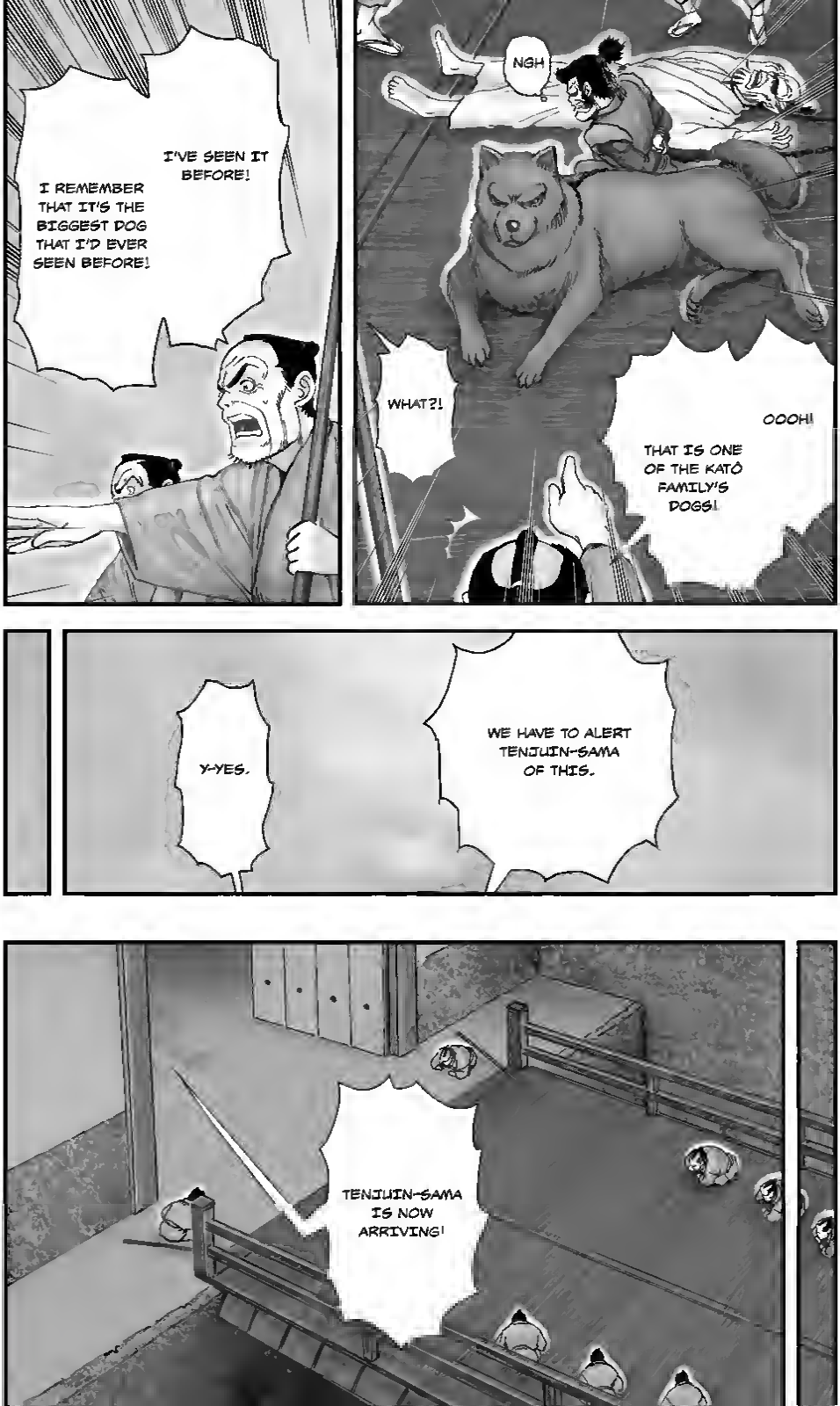
.....

CREAK
STORY 33 END

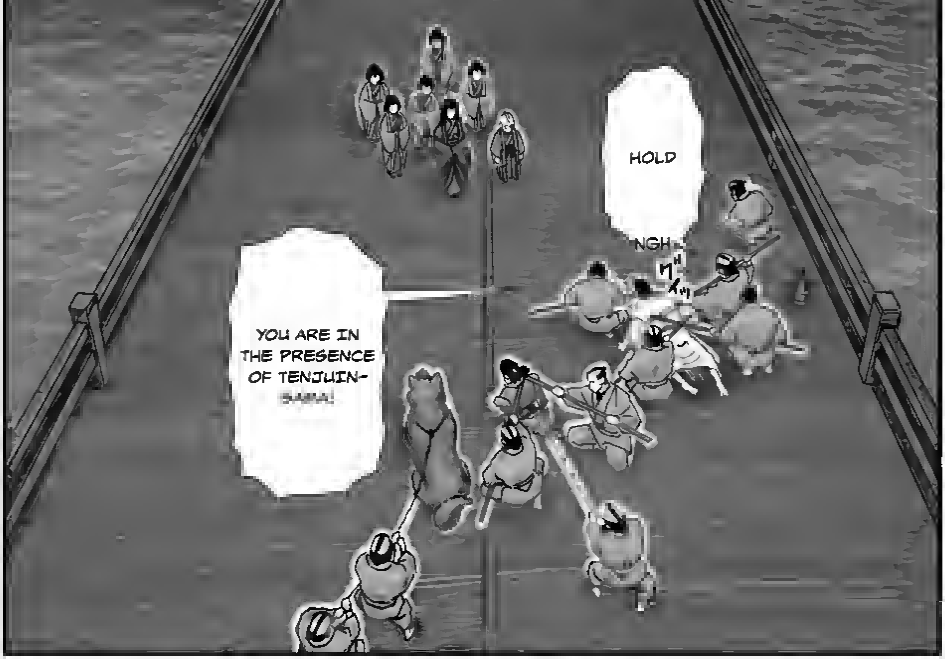
HMM?
CREAK
HUH
UG...
H-HEY! THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE HERE!
WHAT?!
HEEEY!
EVERYONE GET OUT HERE AND LOOK!
THERE'S A RIDICULOUSLY LARGE DOG, TOO.
GROWL


WE'VE HAD LOTS OF WASTED HANDSOME MEN BEFORE...
THIS MORNING THOUGH LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING FAR MORE SERIOUS.
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
THIS IS STRANGE.
MUTTER
MUTTER

WE...WE'RE NOT SUSPICIOUS.
I BEG YOU... RELEASE US AND LET US GO, I PROMISE WE'LL THANK YOU LATER.


I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE!
I REMEMBER THAT IT'S THE BIGGEST DOG THAT I'D EVER SEEN BEFORE!
NGH
WHAT?!
OOOH!
THAT IS ONE OF THE KATÔ FAMILY'S DOGS!
Y-YES.
WE HAVE TO ALERT TENJUIN-SAMA OF THIS.
TENJUIN-SAMA IS NOW ARRIVING!

STORY 34: HUMILIATION

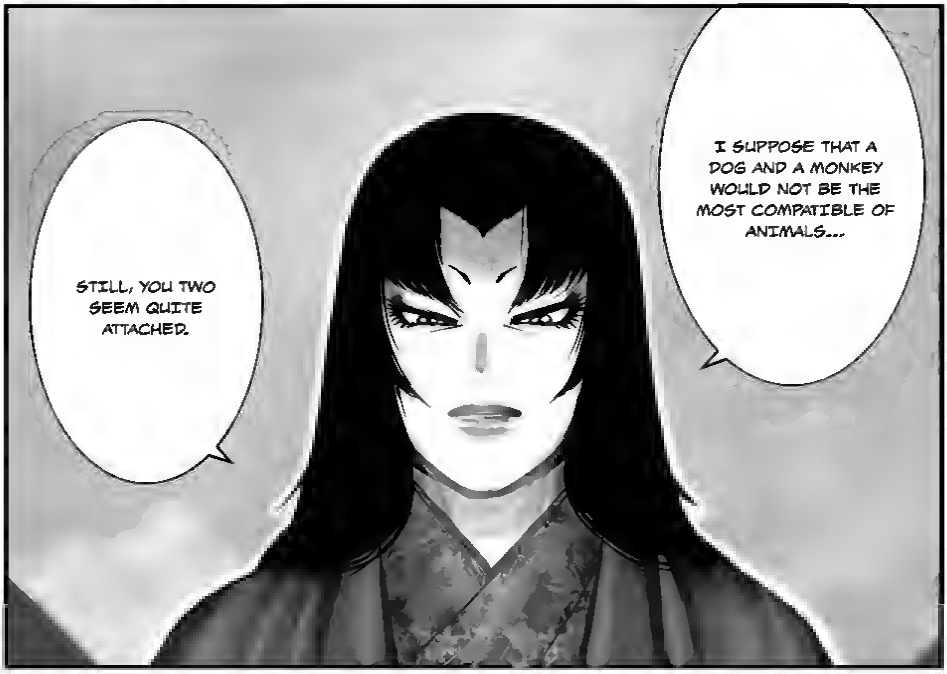

HOLD
NGH
YOU ARE IN THE PRESENCE OF TENJUIN-SAMA!

.....
THEY ARE MEN OF THE KATÔ FAMILY.
WE ARE NOT OF THE KATÔ FAMILY!
MY NAME IS GU... INU! INUYAMA JYÔNTARÔ.
MY COMPANION IS CALLED INUKAWA SHAKUNOSUKE. WE ARE BOTH RÔNIN!
I HAVE TO FEIGN IGNORANCE!

OH...
INUYAMA. THE MAN WITH THE MONKEY FACE...
HEE HEE
HEE HEE
TELL US, INUYAMA, UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES DID YOU END UP HERE...
...CHAINED?
HEE HEE

. . . .
TH-THAT, I HAVE NO IDEA.
I HAVE NO MEMORIES OF THE PREVIOUS NIGHT AND WHEN I CAME ROUND, THIS WAS THE SITUATION I FOUND MYSELF IN...
THAT DOG...
THERE ARE SOME THAT TELL ME IT IS THE KATŌ FAMILY'S DOG...
A-AND SO...
I WOULD ASK YOU TO RELEASE US AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE...

I DESPISE DOGS.
IF I AM TO BE HONEST.
RUB
ゲイ
RUB
ゲイ
I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THIS DOG CAME FROM EITHER!


I SUPPOSE THAT A DOG AND A MONKEY WOULD NOT BE THE MOST COMPATIBLE OF ANIMALS...
STILL, YOU TWO SEEM QUITE ATTACHED.

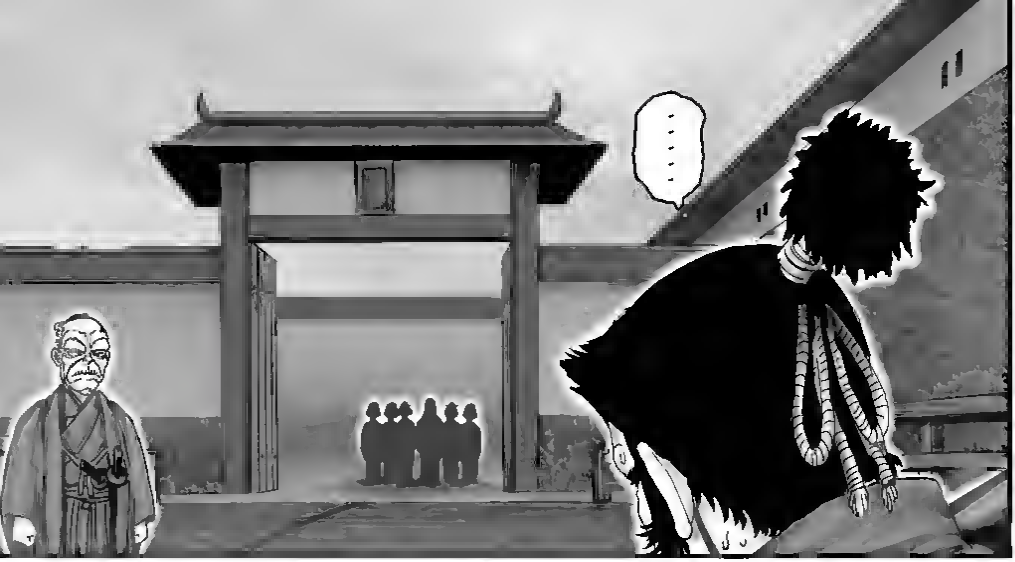
.....

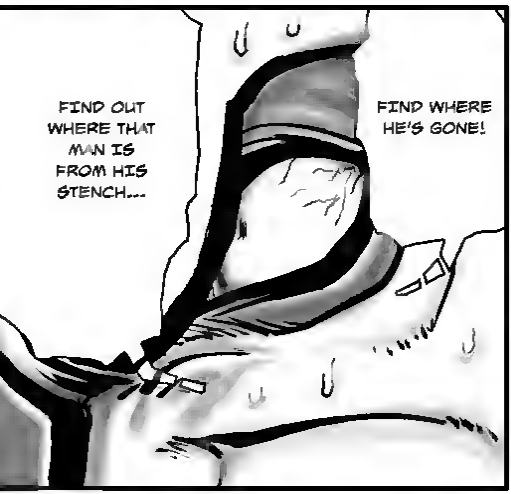
THIS SPRING...
WITH THE KATÔ FAMILY'S DOGS IN FRONT...
THEY FORCED THEMSELVES INTO THE TÔKEIJI TEMPLE IN KAMAKURA AND COMMITTED INHUMANE ATROCITIES.
...THE RUMORED...
THE NAME OF THE AIZU KATÔ FAMILY IS WELL KNOWN.
TO BE SNOOPING AROUND THE HOME OF A WOMAN WITH DOGS CAN ONLY MEAN...

SHURI. TAKE THESE MEN TO THE KATÔ FAMILY.
YES, MIS-TRESS.

IF...
...THESE TWO ARE NOT IN FACT MEN OF THE KATÔ FAMILY...
THEN TAKE THEM TO THE MAGIS-TRATE'S OFFICE, AND HAVE THEM QUESTIONED AGAIN.

WE...
P-PLEASE WAIT!



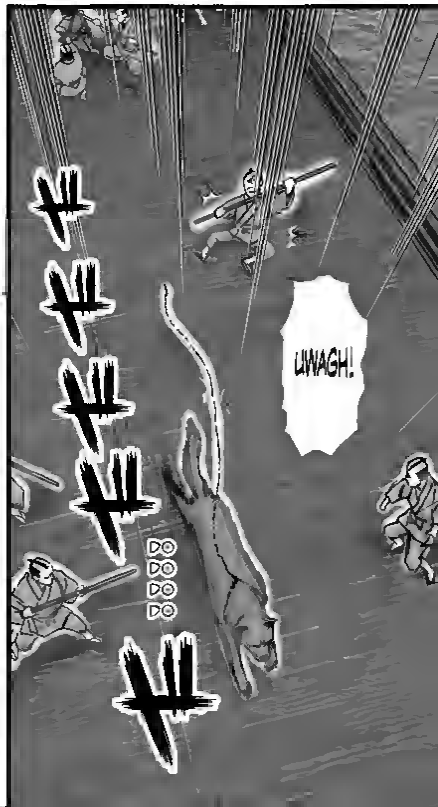

FIND OUT WHERE THAT MAN IS FROM HIS STENCH...
FIND WHERE HE'S GONE!

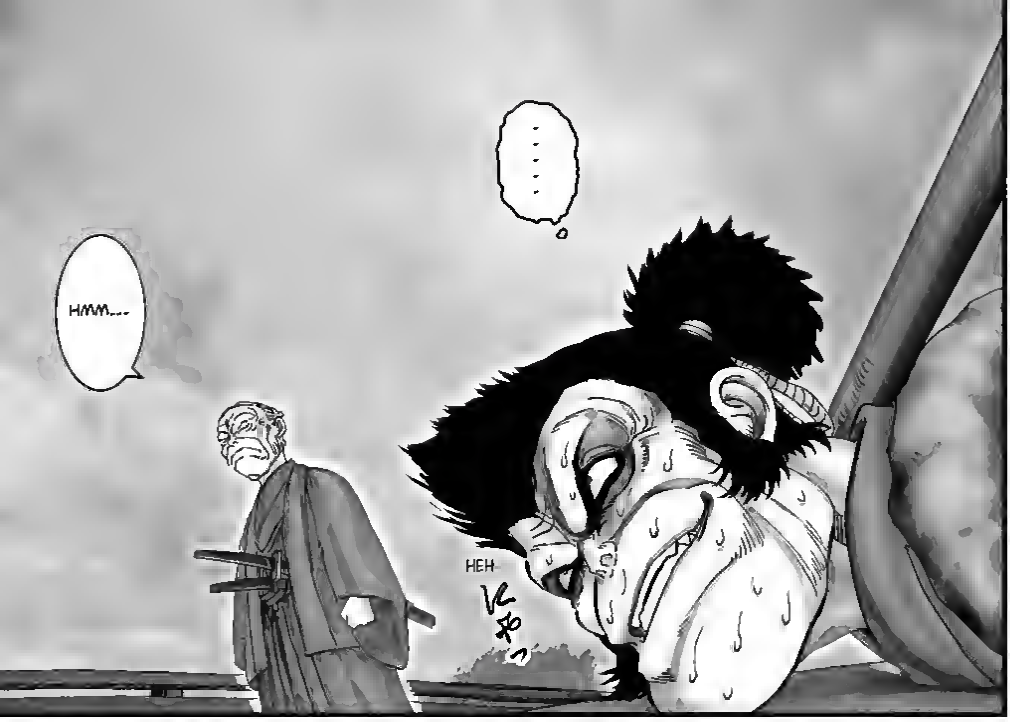
TENMARU
DO YOU REMEMBER THE SMELL OF THE MAN THAT BROUGHT US HERE...

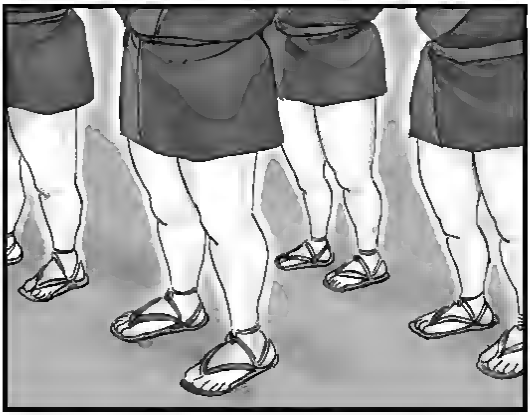
SCRATCH

JINGLE
GRRRR
HAH?!
BYU
!!

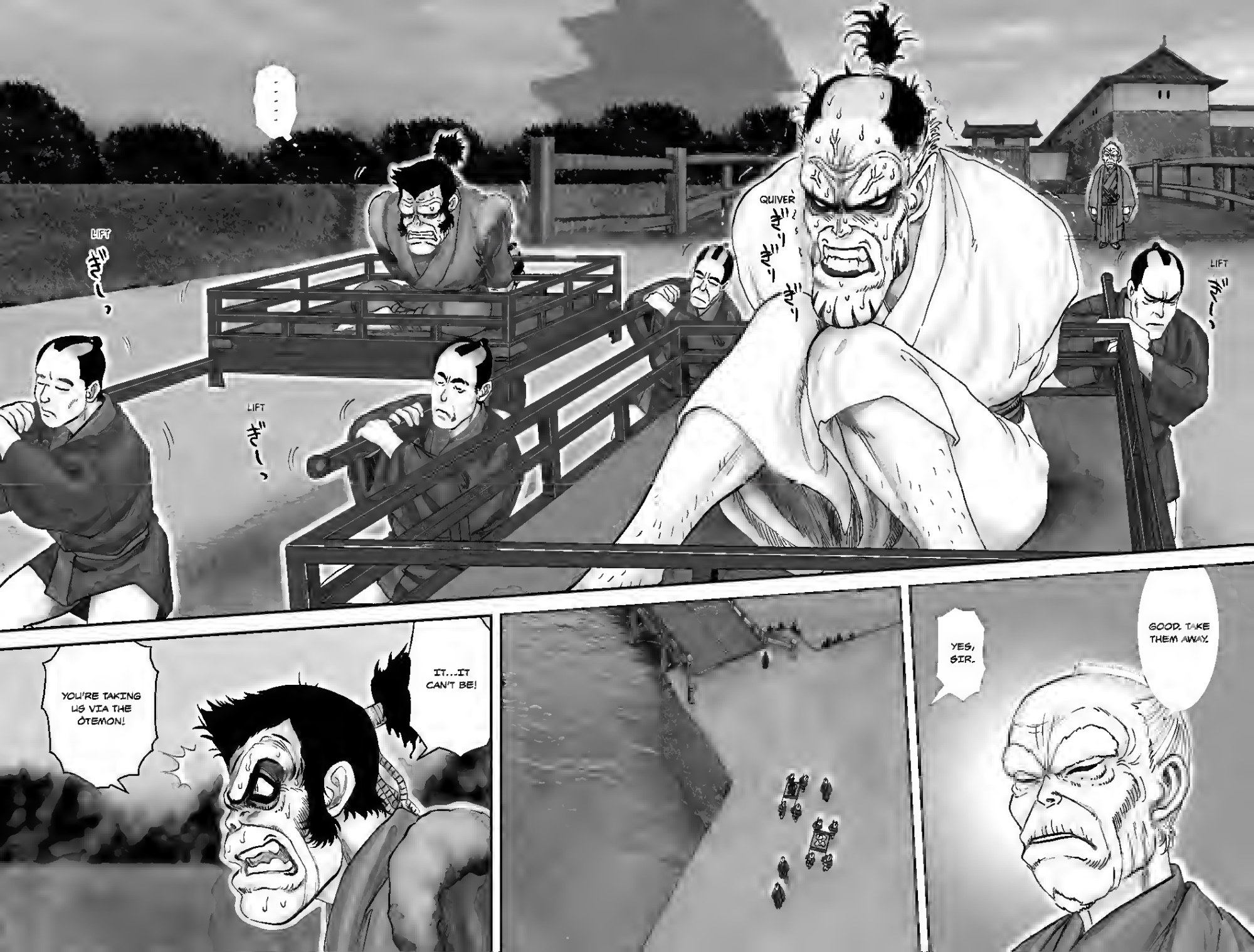
DAMN IT!
THE DOG GOT AWAY!
DO DO DO

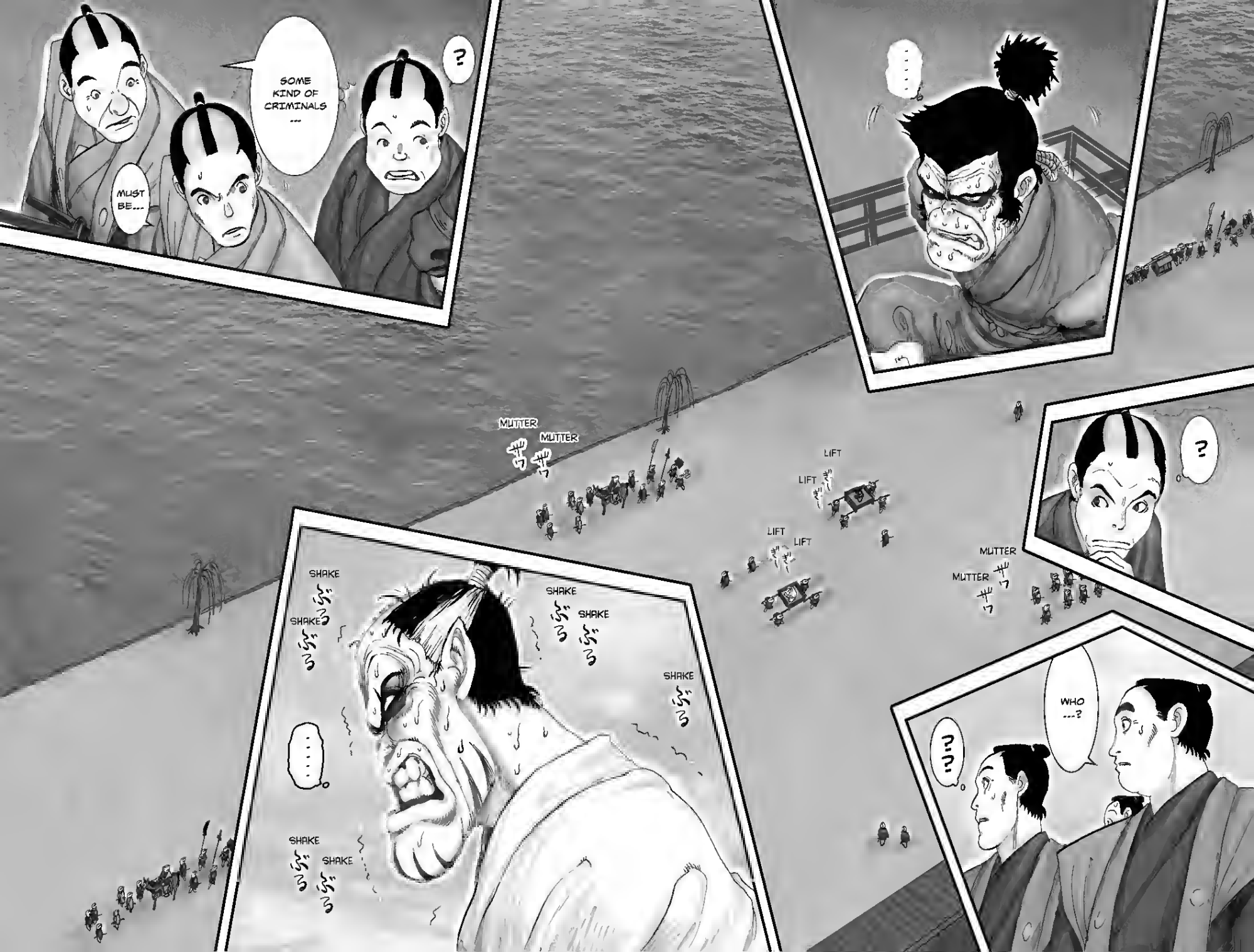

UNAGH!
DO DO DO DO

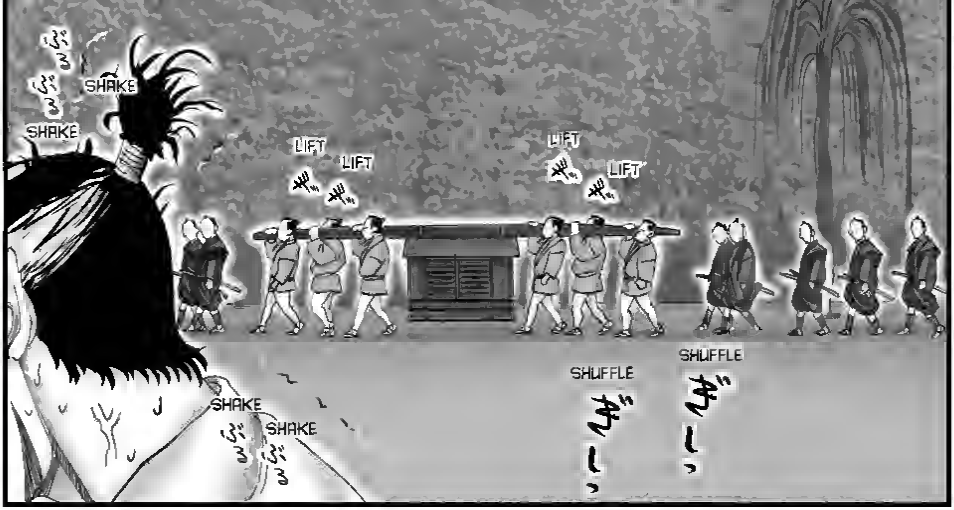

HMM...
HEH



LEAVE THE DOG.
TAKE THESE TWO MEN TO THE KATÔ MANSION!
SIR!


LIFT
LIFT
LIFT
QUIVER
GOOD. TAKE THEM AWAY.
YES, SIR.
IT...IT CAN'T BE!
YOU'RE TAKING US VIA THE ŌTEMON!


SOME KIND OF CRIMINALS ---
MUST BE...
?
MUTTER
MUTTER
LIFT
LIFT
LIFT
LIFT
?
MUTTER
MUTTER
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
WHO ---?
!?!


SHAKE
SHAKE
LIFT
LIFT
LIFT
LIFT
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
SHAKE
SHAKE

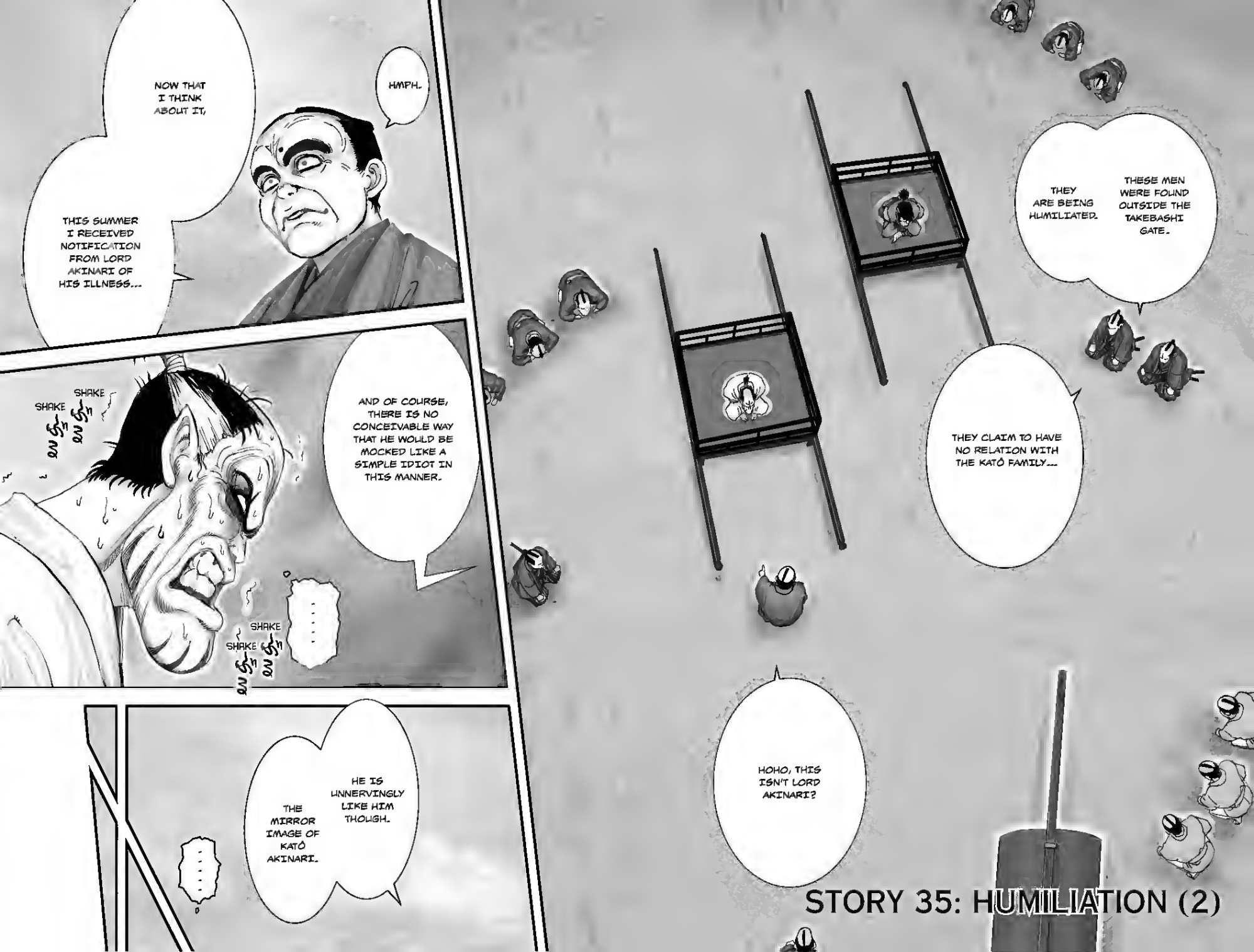
SLIDE

COUNCILOR
MATSUDAIRA
IZUNOKAMI
NOBUTSUNA
.....
STORY 34 END

.....

HMM...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
MASTER SHIKINOBUSHÔ ...THIS IS AN UNUSUAL WAY TO FIND YOU TRAVELING.
.....


NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
HMPH.
THIS SUMMER I RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM LORD AKINARI OF HIS ILLNESS...
SHAKE
SHAKE
AND OF COURSE, THERE IS NO CONCEIVABLE WAY THAT HE WOULD BE MOCKED LIKE A SIMPLE IDIOT IN THIS MANNER.
SHAKE
SHAKE
THE MIRROR IMAGE OF KATÔ AKINARI.
HE IS UNNERVINGLY LIKE HIM THOUGH.
THEY ARE BEING HUMILIATED.
THESE MEN WERE FOUND OUTSIDE THE TAKEBASHI GATE.
THEY CLAIM TO HAVE NO RELATION WITH THE KATÔ FAMILY...
HOHO, THIS ISN'T LORD AKINARI?

STORY 35: HUMILIATION (2)

EDO KATÔ MANSION
OH!
LORD!
WAS IT OVER WITHOUT INCIDENT?

WE HAVE ONLY THIS MOMENT BEEN RESCUED FROM THAT HOLE.
ダダダダダ
DADADADA

THIS IS A FAKE KATÔ AKINARI!
YOU HAVE IT WRONG! WE'RE FRAUDS!

. . .

THIS IS INEXCUS-ABLE.
THEY LOOK EXACTLY LIKE THE REAL THING!
GRRRRR
YOU MUST ALLOW US TO INVES-TIGATE IMMEDI-ATELY.

YES... MOST DEFI-NITELY NOT.
... UH...
HE'S... RIGHT, THIS IS NOT OUR LORD!

OOOHAAR!
GRAHR
UWAH?!
S-STOP THERE!
SWOOSH
DO DO DO DO

...IN TRUTH, THE REAL...
N-NO... THEY ARE...
THOSE TWO ARE INDEED THE LORD AND A RETAINER OF THIS HOUSE, ARE THEY NOT?
THIS IS EXCEEDINGLY IMPOLITE!
THE REAL?
I...
I SEE...
THEY ARE FRAUDS!
W-WITHOUT A DOUBT.

WHAM

YOU PIECE OF SHIT!
BEING HUMILIATED IN THAT FASHION!
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK

.....
...LORD. MODERA-TION.

I'M GOING BACK TO AIZU!
SHUT UP! YOU MISERABLE COWARDS!
YOU CAN ALL DIE! ALL OF YOU TOGETHER!

YOU...THE ONLY THING THAT YOU ARE GOOD WITH IS WORDS ...
THEN THERE WILL NOT BE A SINGLE PERSON CAPABLE OF PROTECTING YOU, MY LORD.
IF WE DIE...

HARA-KIRI RIGHT THIS SECOND!
WELL, YOU CAN DIE!
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
L-LORD!

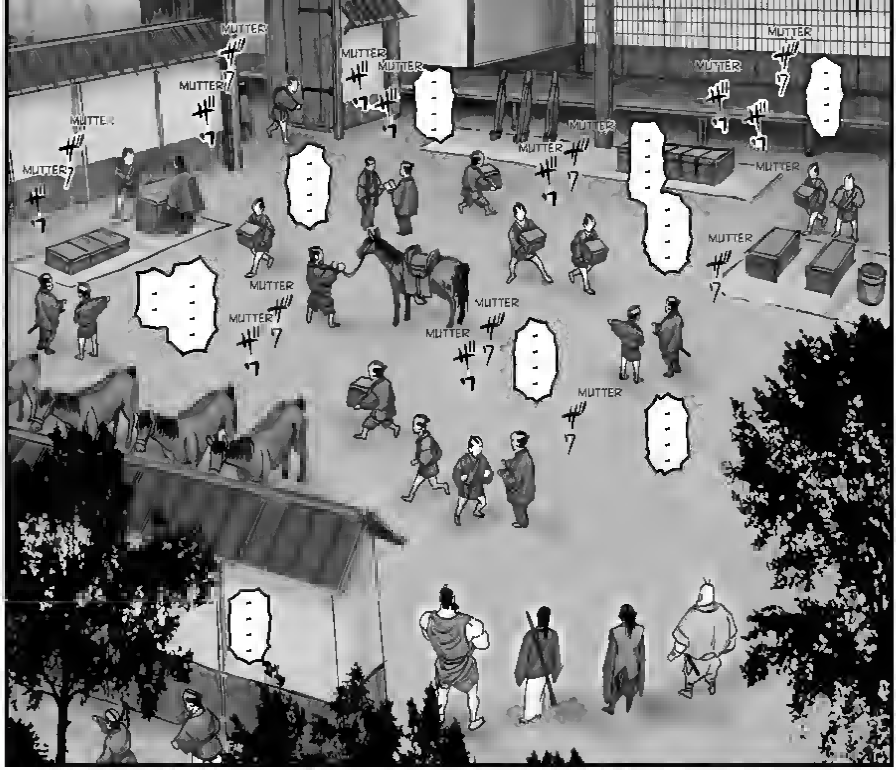
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
O
.....
THUMP
IF I DIE, THEN THE WOMEN OF HORI...
YOUR PATIENCE FOR A MOMENT!
AND THAT MAN, I KNOW A WAY TO KILL THEM.
THUMP
THUMP

TENMARU ...
IS NOW DEFINITELY HEADED FOR THEIR HIDEOUT AS I SPEAK.

H-HAVE MERCY ON ME!
PLEASE WAIT UNTIL HE RETURNS.
CLAW

I WILL SET OUT FOR AIZU THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW...
YOU HAVE UNTIL THEN...

I WANT THEIR HEADS PRESENTED TO ME...
OR YOUR OWN...
YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON THIS!
TAKE CARE!
YES SIR!


MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER

.....
THERE'S ENOUGH CLAMOR HERE THAT YOU WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THE CITY HAD FALLEN.
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WE'RE GOING HOME...
THE CAMP LOOKS LIKE WE LOST A BATTLE!

I'M A LITTLE CONCERNED THAT THE IMPERIAL COURT* HAS SET OUT BUT NOT COME BACK.
I WONDER IF THINGS ARE GETTING A LITTLE OUT OF HAND WITH TENJUIN.

* Imperial Court = Edo Bakufu

WHAT!
WHEN THE DUST SETTLES, WE'RE CLEARLY GOING TO BE IN THE RIGHT.
AND CERTAINLY NOT THOSE WHO ARE HARBORING THE REBEL FAMILY.

DON'T TALK NONSENSE, GINSHIRÔ.
HAH
FINALLY A DIRECT CONFLICT WITH THE GOVERNMENT.
HUH, WAIT!
IF TENMARU RETURNS THEN WE WILL BE ABLE TO CRUSH THE ENEMY IN A SINGLE BLOW.
. . . .

HMM?
UM... EXCUSE ME.
I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM LORD GUSOKU WHO WAS AT THE GATE.
WHAT?!
TENMARU RETURNED AND JYONOSHIN WENT OFF WITH HIM ALONE?!
Y- YES.
LORD GUSOKU GAVE IT A MOMENT'S CONSIDERATION.
BUT HE SAID: "FIRST I WILL CONFIRM IT WITH MY OWN EYES, AND RETURN BY NIGHTFALL."
AND THEN HE LEFT...

STORY 35 END

KA
KA
KA
KA

IF I DON'T INFILTRATE THE ENEMY'S LOCATION BEFORE MY MASTER LEAVES FOR AIZU...
THEN I'LL HAVE TO COMMIT HARA-KIRI.

ZAAAAH

DO DO DO DO
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, TENMARU!

?!

STORY 36: DOG AND MONKEY TÔKAIJI TEMPLE
SHINAGAWA BANSHÔZAN TÔKAIJI TEMPLE
IS THIS... REALLY WHERE THE MAN WHO WEARS THE HANNYA MASK RETURNED TO, TENMARU?
.....
BANSHÔZAN TÔKAIJI TEMPLE
THE CHIEF PRIEST HERE IS PRIEST TAKUAN...
I'VE HEARD THAT THE SHOGUN'S DEVOTION IS STRONG...
...ARE THE HORI WOMEN HERE, TOO?
NO, THAT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE! THIS IS A WAR TEMPLE, PROHIBITED TO WOMEN.
.....
I NEED TO CHECK. I CAN'T MAKE A SINGLE MISTAKE...

SHUF
I'LL CALL FOR THE SEVEN SPEARS AFTERWARDS...
LET'S GO.
TENMARU!
GROWL
CHINK

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
...I SHAVED MY HEAD, TOO...
HM....
PLEASE, TENMARU....

GROWL
TEN-MARU?
HM?!
THERE!

OCHIE...
THEY ARE HERE!
PATRINIA.
PAMPAS GRASS.
NADE-SHIKO.
CHINESE BELL-FLOWER...AND THEN, ARROW ROOT, BUSH CLOVER AND THOROUGH-WORT.
I'LL CUT HER DOWN NOW!
CHING
I CAN'T SENSE ANYONE HERE...
PANT
PANT

.....

IF I CAPTURE HER ALIVE, AND TAKE HER PRISONER...
I CAN HAVE A BOUND HOSTAGE...
SHE'LL MAKE AN EXCELLENT GIFT FOR MY LORD.
TEN-MARU!
SWOOSH

THUD
!!
BASA

SWISH
GRAB
!!

!!
GUSOKU JYÔNO-SHIN.
CALM DOWN.
IT'S POINTLESS TRYING TO ESCAPE, OCHIE.
STRUGGLE
STRUGGLE
ANSWER TRUTH-FULLY...CAUSE TROUBLE AND I'LL FEED YOU TO TENMARU.
PLOP
SO! WHICH PART OF YOU DO YOU WANT HIM TO EAT FIRST... HMM?
HEH HEH
THE OTHER WOMEN MUST BE IN THIS TEMPLE TOO. AREN'T THEY, OCHIE?
ANSWER ME!
WHERE IS THE HANNYA MAN?
WHO IS HE?!

OR THE FOOT THAT YOU TREAD ON ME WITH?
HAH?
ONE OF THE PRETTY CHEEKS FROM THE FACE THAT LOOKED DOWN ON ME?
CLENCH
NGH
.....

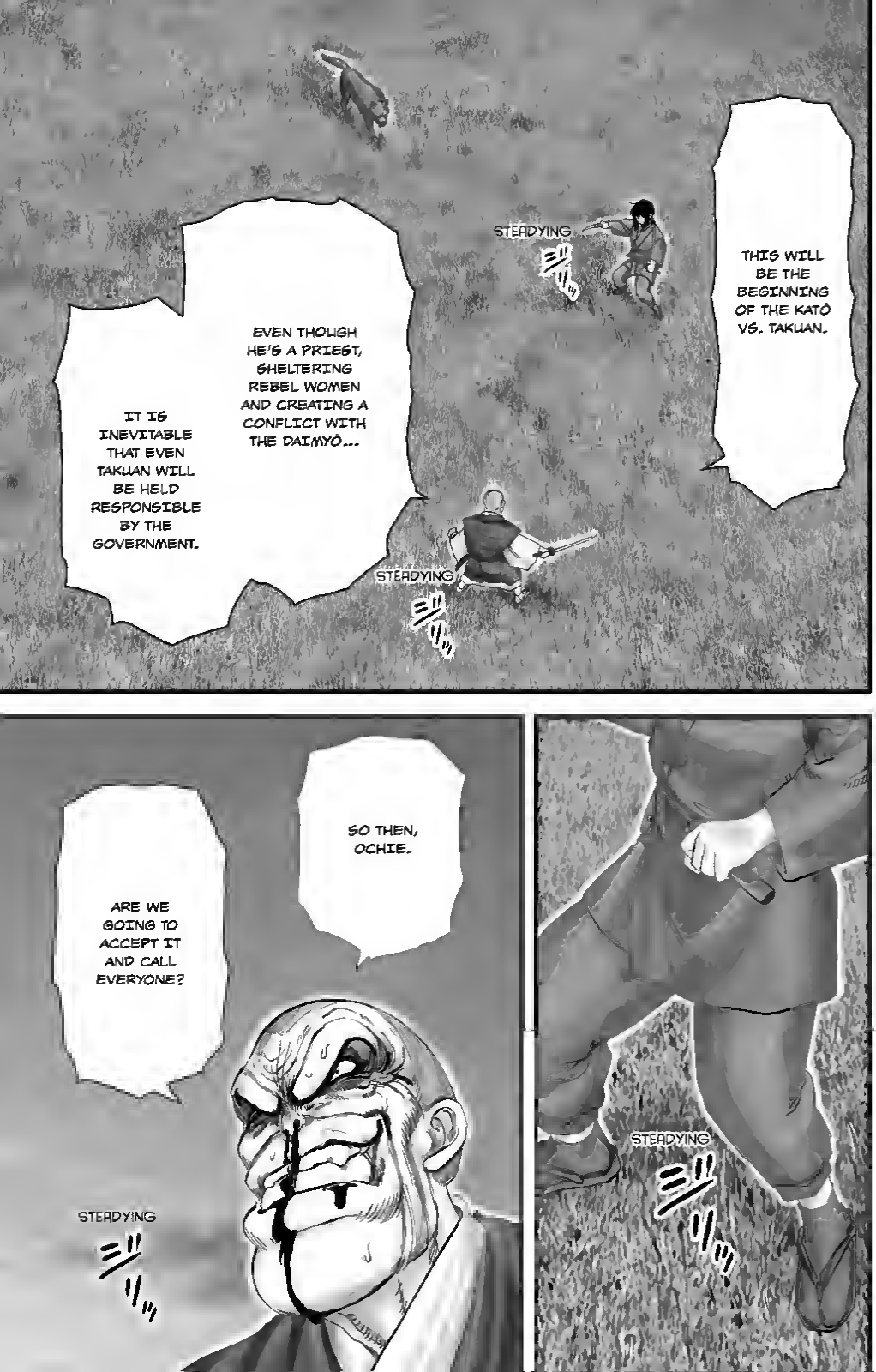
WHAT WILL IT BE....
BEFORE I PRESENT YOU TO MY LORD... I'LL....
CLENCH
ゴクリ
GRAB
グイッ
HYUU
ヒュー
.....
WHACK
UGH.

GNGH.
ZAH
ZAH
BARK
DON'T KILL HER, TENMARU!

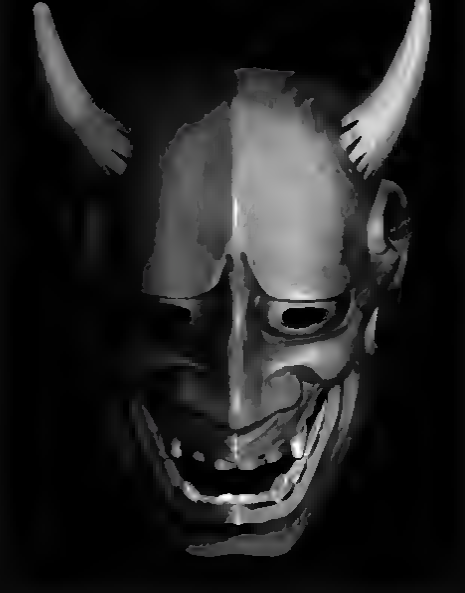
...BY ALL MEANS...
ZAH
SHAKE
ZAH
ZAH
ZAH
WE NEED HER AS A HOSTAGE.
STEADY
WE HAVE TO!

GASP
No...
WHEN WE TORTURED YOUR FATHER, HORI MONDO...
I WAS THE ONE WHO FINISHED HIM OFF.
GRIN
ニヤッ

SO...DO YOU WANT TO SCREAM FOR THE OTHERS?
IF YOU DO, THEN TENMARU WILL RUN BACK TO THE KATŌ FAMILY...
AND BRING BACK THE SEVEN SPEARS WITH HIM.


THIS WILL BE THE BEGINNING OF THE KATÔ VS. TAKUAN.
STEADYING
EVEN THOUGH HE'S A PRIEST, SHELTERING REBEL WOMEN AND CREATING A CONFLICT WITH THE DAIMYÔ...
IT IS INEVITABLE THAT EVEN TAKUAN WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE BY THE GOVERNMENT.
STEADYING
SO THEN, OCHIE.
ARE WE GOING TO ACCEPT IT AND CALL EVERYONE?
STEADYING
STEADYING

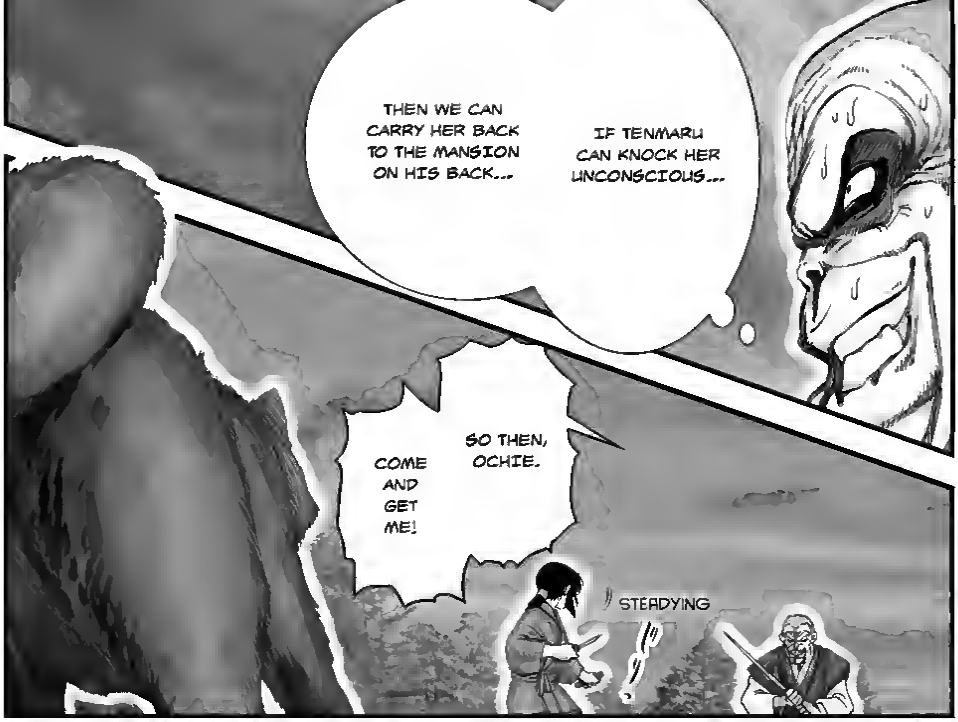
I, ALONE...
...WILL BE YOUR OPPO-NENT.
STORY 36 END.



杉
十
兵衛
三

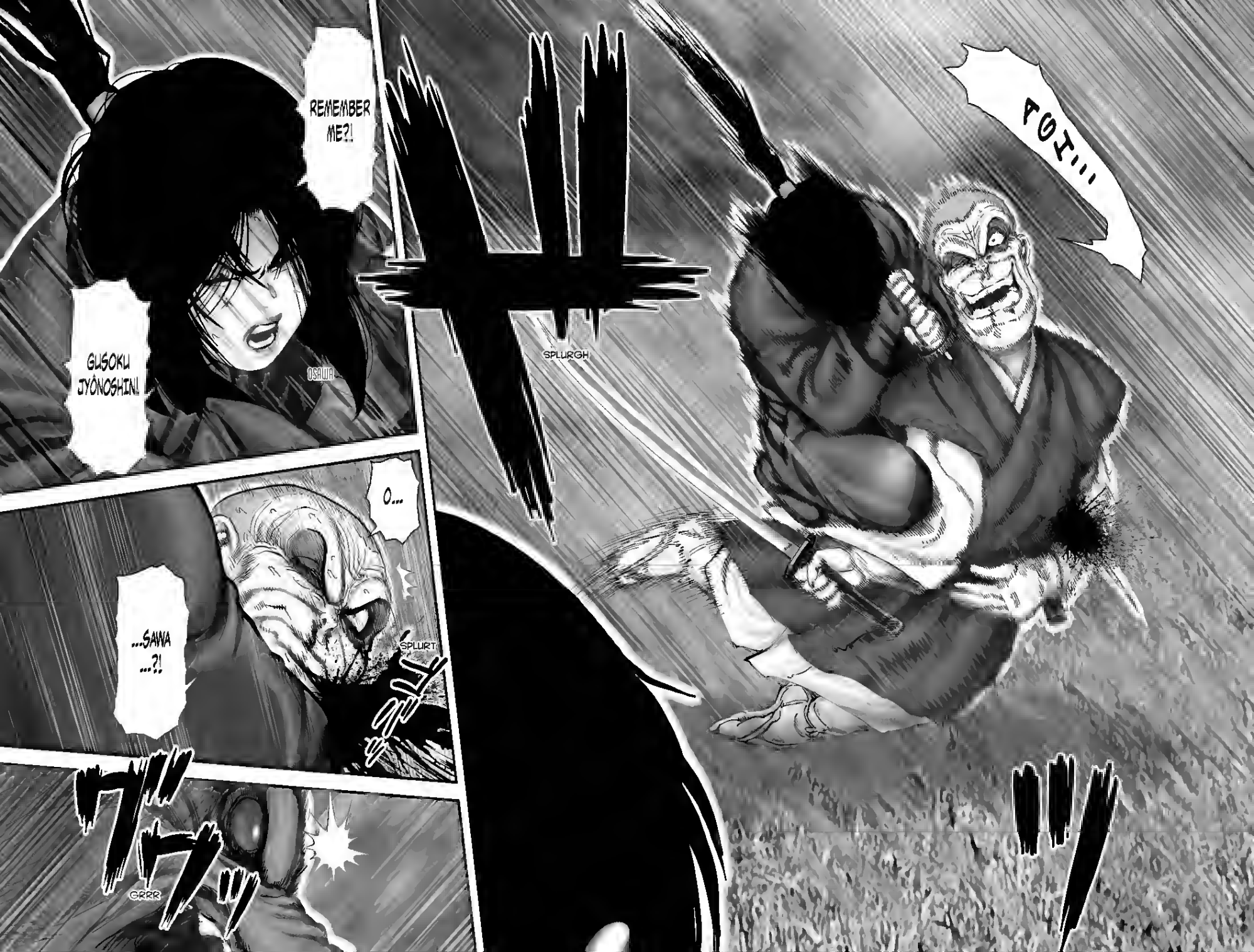
I, ALONE...
...WILL BE YOUR OPPO-NENT.
GOOD...
GRIN
STEADYING
STEADYING

IF I CAPTURE OCHIE ALIVE AND PRESENT HER TO MY LORD...
ALL MY PREVIOUS MISTAKES WILL BE FORGOTTEN, AND MORE!
STEADYING
STEADYING
STEADYING
STEADYING
STORY 37: DOG AND MONKEY
TÔKAI TEMPLE


THEN WE CAN CARRY HER BACK TO THE MANSION ON HIS BACK...
IF TENMARU CAN KNOCK HER UNCONSCIOUS...
SO THEN, OCHIE.
COME AND GET ME!
STEADYING

TENMARU WILL BE RUNNING FASTER THAN LIGHTNING.
THERE ISN'T A MAN ON EARTH WHO COULD STOP HIM.
EVEN IF SHE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS DURING THE TRIP...
GRIN
KEY

HEHE...
AFTER HE'S HAD HIS FUN WITH HER, MY LORD WILL GIVE HER TO US...
LICK
THEN...
THEN I WILL SHOW HER BODY MY REVENGE...
STERDYING
STERDYING
.....

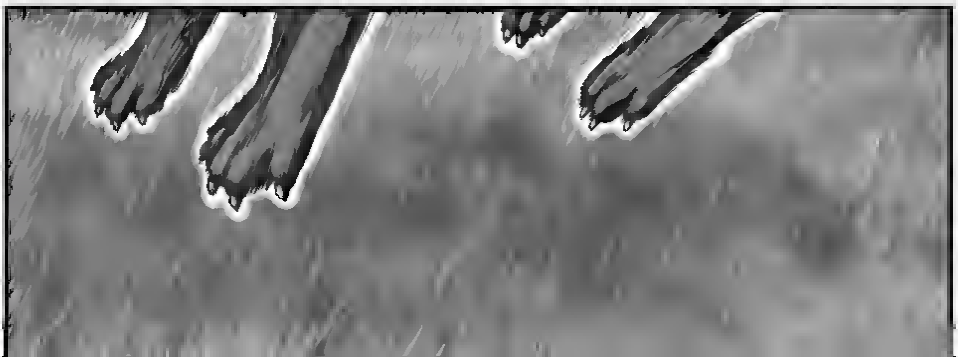

REMEMBER ME?!
GUSOKU JYÔNOSHIN!
OSAU!
SPLURGH
TOI!!!
O...
...SAWA ...?!
SPLURT
GRRR

ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
YELP
ZOOOOM
WHINE
THUD
VROOOM
OSHIKA

GRAR
TUG
AH!
AH...
DUMPH
SNAP
!!

OSHINA!

TO THE AIZU...
RUN, TENMARU!
MANSION...
SPLURT



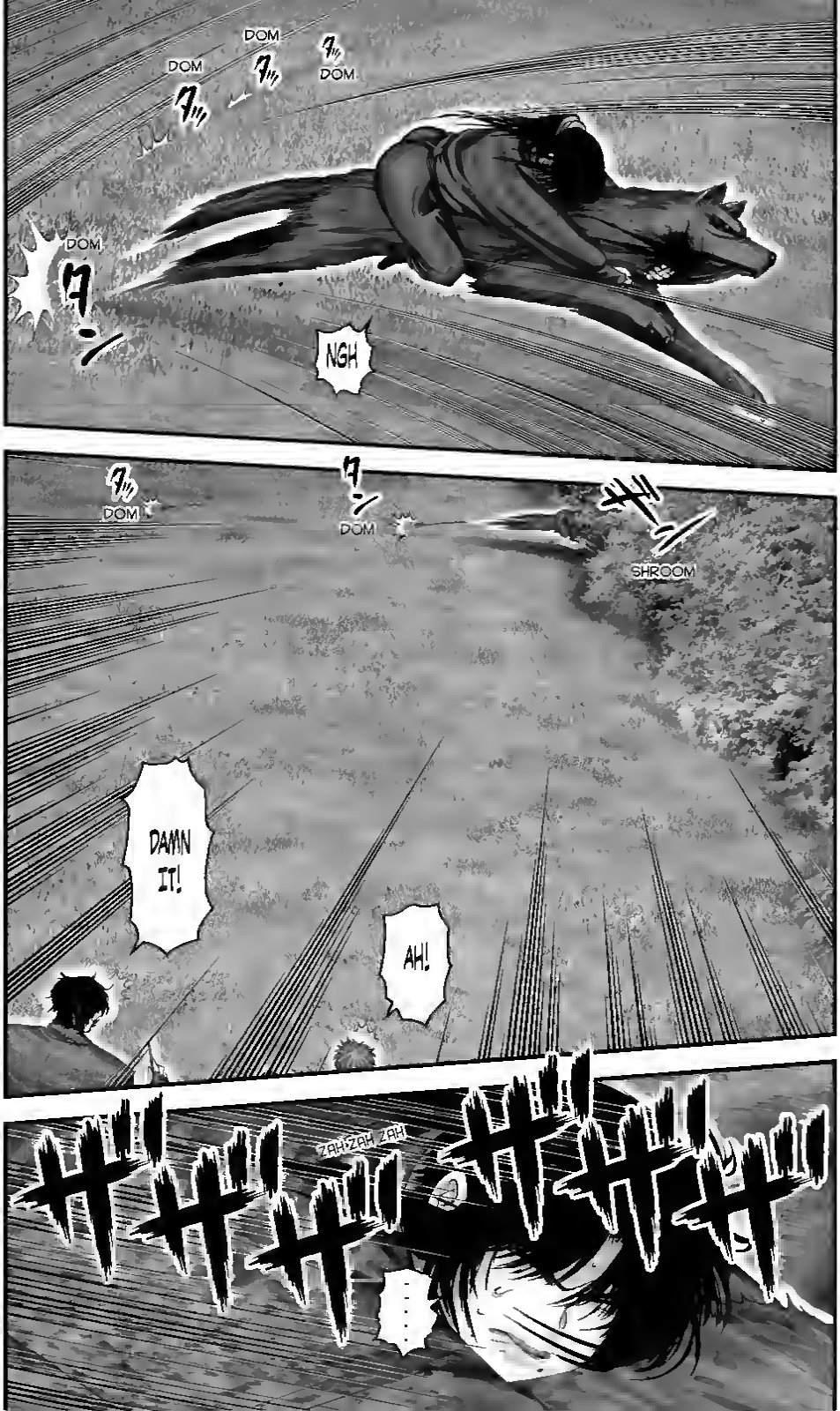
AH!
DUMPH
OSHINA!
...

ZAH
CRUMPLE

LET GO!
OSHINA!

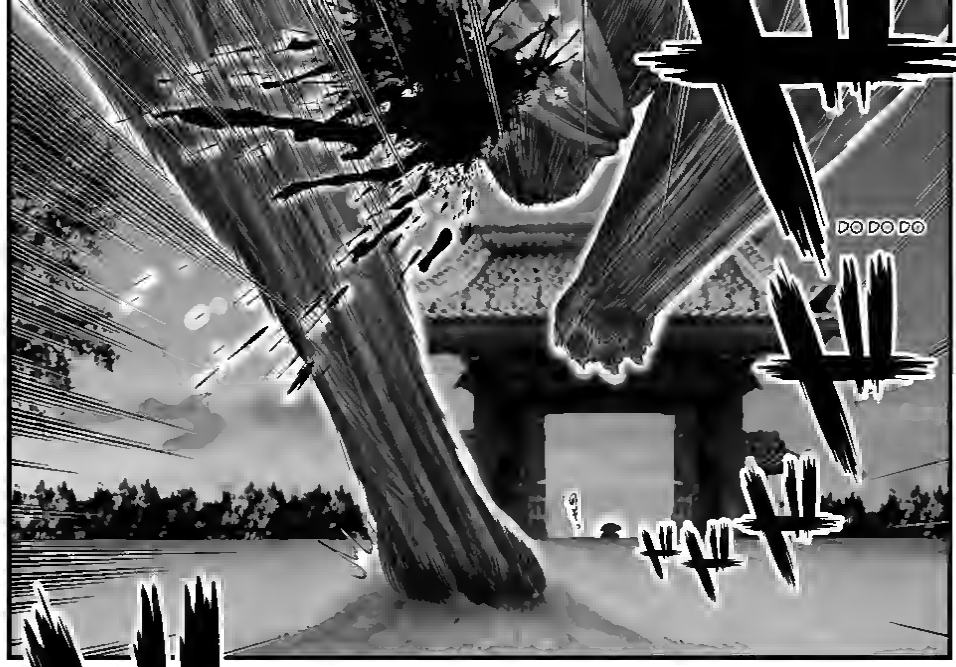
GRIP
DO DO
DO DO

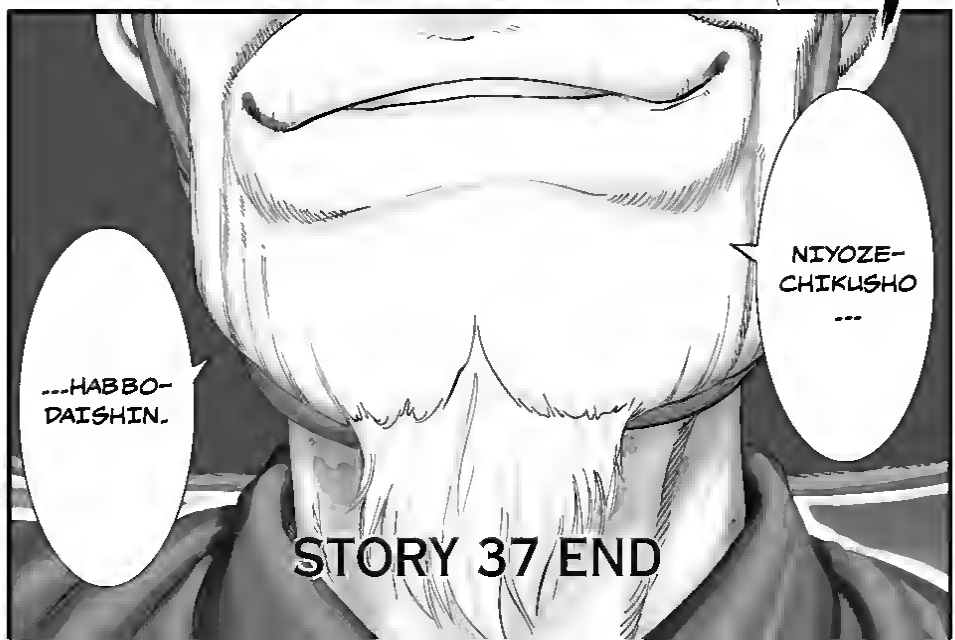
DON'T LET GO, OSHINA!
ZAH ZAH ZAH
IF YOU LET GO...
...HE'LL RIP YOUR THROAT OPEN.
"DO DO" DO DO
!!
JYUBEI-SAMA!!
CHING
CHAR


DOM
DOM
DOM
DOM
DOM
NGH
DOM
DOM
SHROOM
DAMN IT!
AH!
ZAHZAH ZAH
. . .

ZAH ZAH ZAH
!!
WHIP
WHIP
WHIP
...
SLASH
SLASH
ZAH ZAH ZAH
DO DO DO

DO DO DO DO DO
NGH...
THAT DOG IS AMAZING!
WAH!
THUD
ZAH ZAH
DO DO
WHAT'S THAT?!





STORY 37 END

DO DO DO DO
!?
!!
ZAH-ZAH-ZA
TA-TAKUAN-SAMA!!
DO DO DO DO
SLIP

STORY 38: GIFT FROM EDO
HALT.
BANSHŌZAN TŌRAIJI
TEMPLE RESIDENT PRIEST
TAKUAN SŌHŌ

THUD
ZAH
SCREECH
SCREECH
SCREECH
ZAH

.....
PLOD
PLOD
NGH. UGH...
JYUBEI-SENSEI!
.....

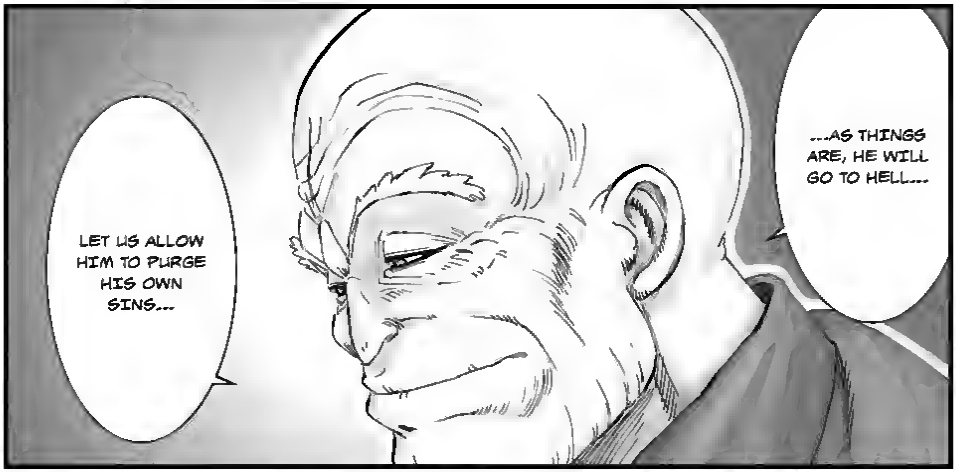
PLOD
ザッ

I'M SORRY...
YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH LONGER TO LIVE...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
OSHINA...
UH...
MASTER
JYUBEI... THIS IS ONE OF KATÔ'S DOG-

.....
HE CAME IN HERE, AN ENEMY ENCAMPMENT...
TO HAVE GONE THIS FAR...HE HAS NO LESS VALUE THAN A HUMAN.

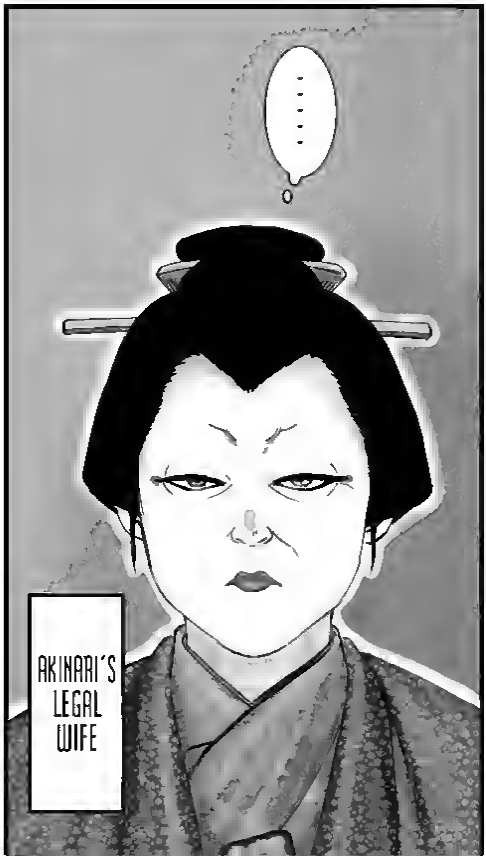
IN MANY WAYS HE IS MUCH FINER THAN A PERSON.
WITH THESE INJURIES HE WAS GOING TO RUN TO THE KATÔ MANSION WITH OSHINA ON HIS BACK.

A TRULY LOYAL SERVANT... HOWEVER.
IT IS UNFORTU-NATE THE MASTER HE OBEYED...


...AS THINGS ARE, HE WILL GO TO HELL...
LET US ALLOW HIM TO PURGE HIS OWN SINS...

LET US ALLOW HIM TO BECOME A BUDDHA.

THREE DAYS LATER
AIZU-FIEFDOM KATÔ MANSION GRAND ENTRANCE


.....
AKINARI'S LEGAL WIFE

SHE'S NOT SAYING FARE-WELL TO HER FATHER?
...WHERE'S AKITOMO?
SCOWL

HMPH.

WHERE IS HE?!
JYÔNOSHIN IS STILL NOT BACK.

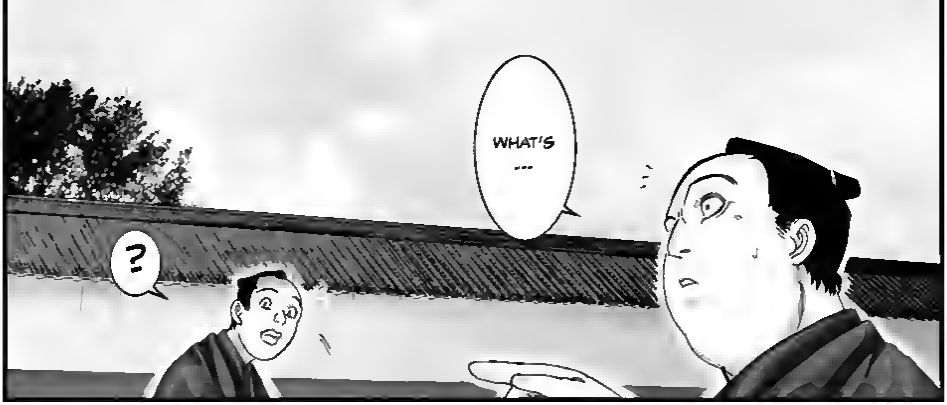
.....

SIR!
JYÔNOSHIN MUST BE WITH TENMARU! HE IS PROBABLY DISCOVERING THE WOMEN'S LOCATION AND THEN WILL RETURN.
DID I NOT ORDER. THAT BEFORE I LEFT EDO, MY ENEMIES HEADS BE BROUGHT BEFORE ME?
SCOWL
GLOWER

AND THEN, HE WILL BRING THEIR HEADS.
WE JUST NEED TO BE A LITTLE PATIENT...
.....

WITHIN THE FIRST TEN RI OF OUR TRIP TO AIZU...
HE WILL HAVE DEFEATED THE ENEMY!
HE WILL HAVE CHASED US BACK, WITH THEIR HEADS IN HIS ARMS, TO SHOW YOU!
IDIOT!
I SAID IT HAD TO BE BEFORE I LEFT EDO.
IF THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN.
THEN I SHALL LINE YOUR HEADS UP INSTEAD!
THE ENEMY'S HEADS. OR JYÔNOSHIN'S!

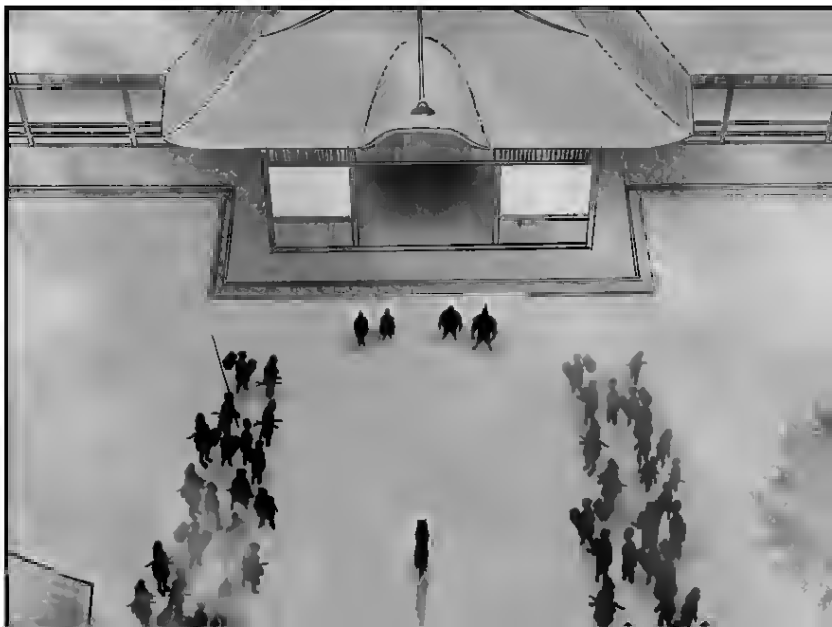
A GIFT FROM EDO!
WITH THAT, I WILL SEND THE ASHINA CLAN IN AIZU...


WHAT'S ...
?

TEN- TENMARU!
TENMARU HAS RETURNED!

GABA
ガバッ
I KNEW IT!
HE HAS RETURNED!

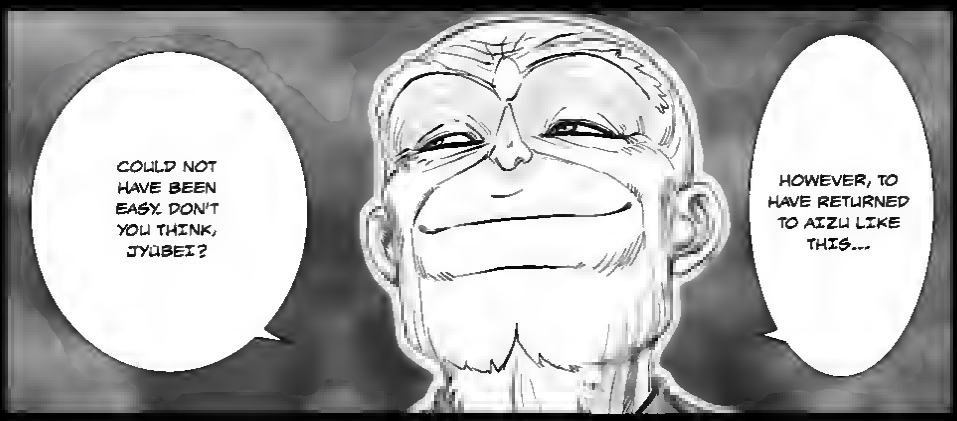
...
...
...DYÔ
...



STORY 38 END

THAT AKINARI.
THREE DAYS BEFORE, EVENING
THE RUMOR IS...
...THAT IN THE LAST TWO OR THREE DAYS HE HAS RETURNED TO AIZU, JYŪBEI.
HAH.
AN UNTIMELY MARCH FOR THE DAIMYŌ.

SO IT CAN ONLY BE EXPECTED THAT AKINARI WOULD NOT WANT TO REMAIN IN EDO.
YOU'VE CAUSED HIM QUITE A LOT OF TROUBLE...
PLOP
PLOP


COULD NOT HAVE BEEN EASY. DON'T YOU THINK, JYŪBEI?
HOWEVER, TO HAVE RETURNED TO AIZU LIKE THIS...

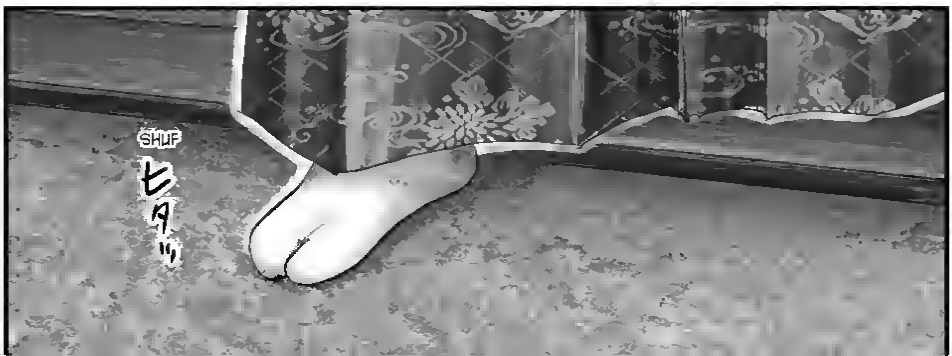
HEH
THIS IS GETTING MORE AND MORE INTERESTING.

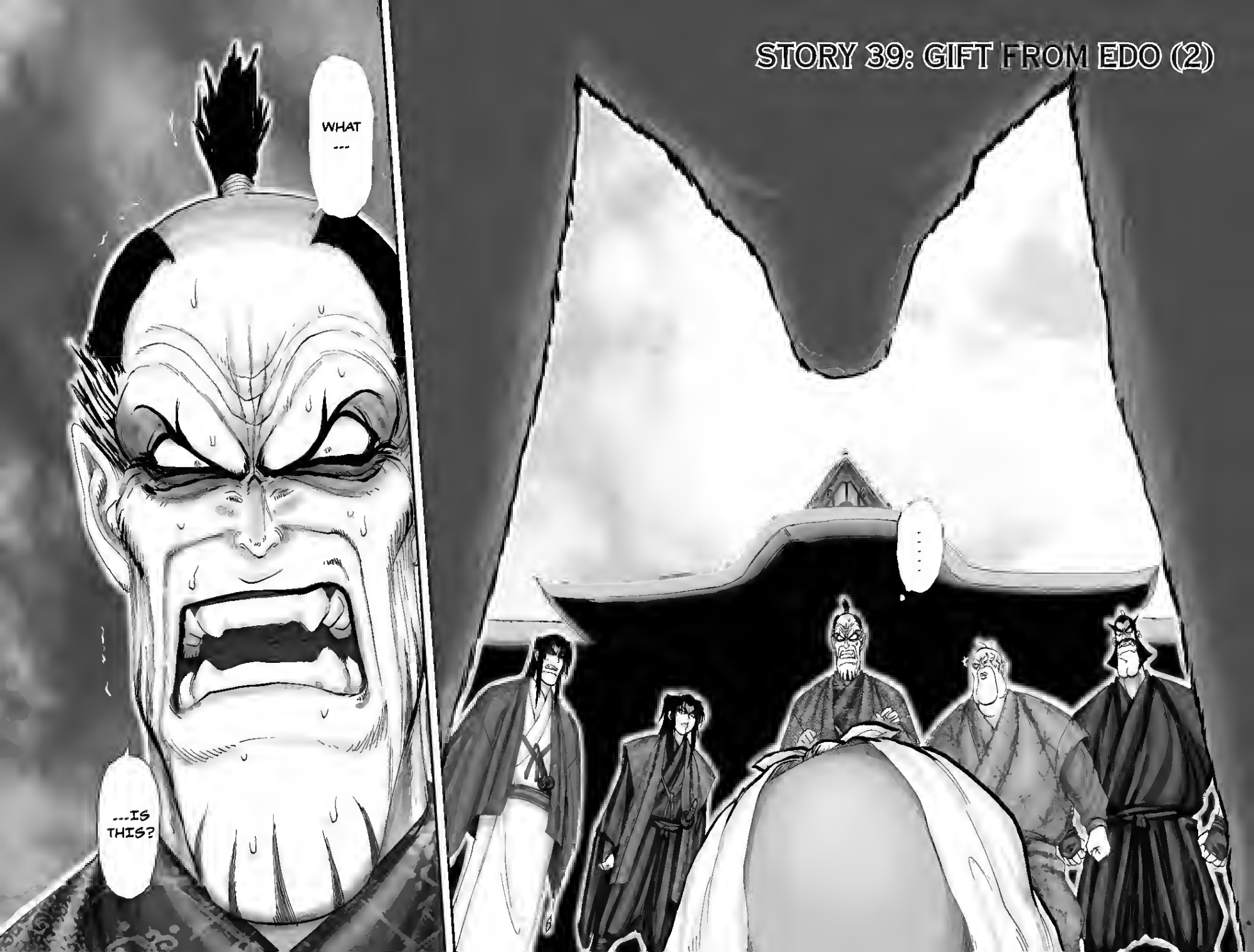
YOU ENJOY THAT KIND OF THING...
IMAGINE THE LOOKS ON THEIR FACES IF WE SNEAK UP BEHIND AND SMOKE THEM OUT.
THOSE RACCOONS FEEL SAFE, HAVING GONE AND HIDDEN IN THEIR DENS...
YOU SURPRISE ME...
WAS IT NOT YOURSELF WHO CHOSE ME?
AKINARI HAS CROSSED THE WRONG TYPE OF FELLOW.
GOODNESS, AN ALLY WHO LIKES TO PLAY WITH HIS PREY.

ARE YOU GOING, JYUBEI? TO AIZU?
AHA-HAHA.
INDEED SO.
I WILL PAY A VISIT.
I'M GROWING WEARY OF EDO...
HAH, MASTER?
I THINK I MAY JOIN YOU.

蛇の目は
四つ
THERE ARE FOUR SNAKES' EYES.

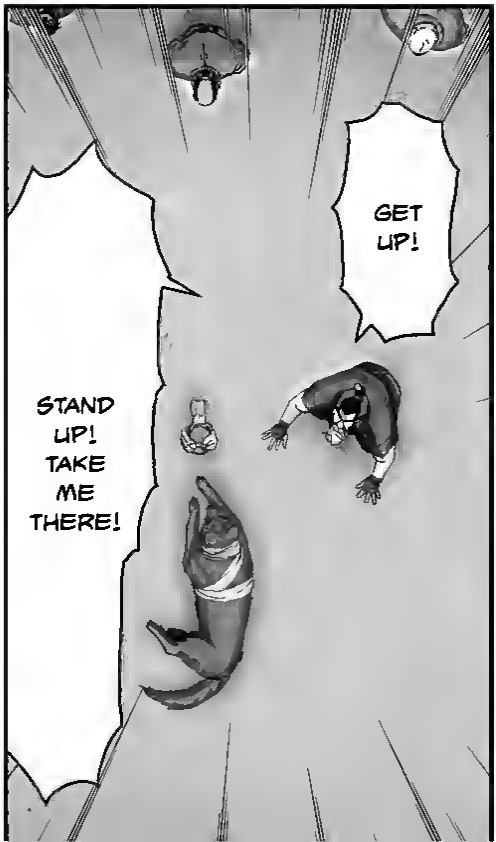
...
...JYÔNO-SHIN...


SHUF
ヒタ


STORY 39: GIFT FROM EDO (2)
WHAT ---
---IS THIS?
.....

ZAH
HE...
HE'S...
DEAD...

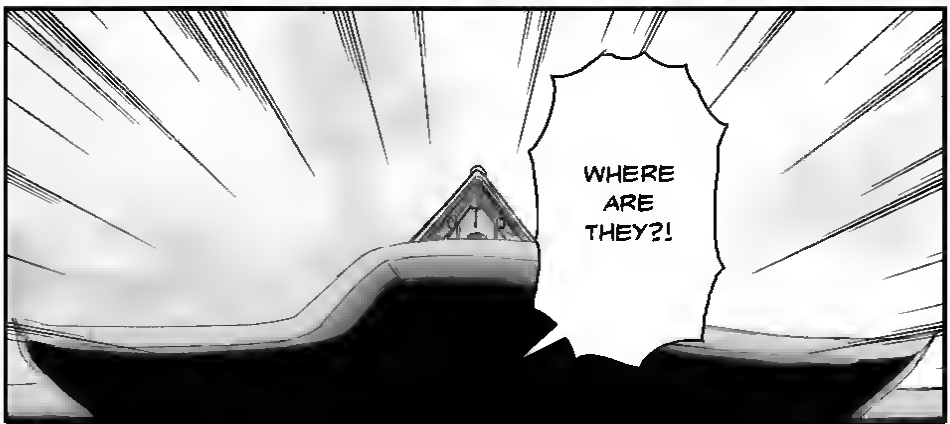
TENMARU!
BANG


GET UP!
STAND UP! TAKE ME THERE!

WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?!

IS WHAT I THOUGHT MIGHT HAPPEN.
THIS...

STAND UP, TENMARU!
.....


WHERE ARE THEY?!

HAH! OUR LORD IS DEPARTING!
GET EVERYTHING READY NOW.

ALREADY THE COURT WILL HAVE RECEIVED NOTIFICATION OF YOUR TRIP...
WE CAN'T MAKE ANYMORE CHANGES...

WE HAVE TO LEAVE?
IT'S TRUE...

THE ROAD TO AIZU IS SIXTY-FIVE RI.
IT IS INEVITABLE THAT THE ENEMY WILL FOLLOW US.

YOU HAVE TO RELY ON US...
GRIN
にたり
WE WILL LAY OUR LIVES ON THE LINE FOR OUR LORD.

IS...IS IT GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT?

IF THE ENEMY LEAVES EDO TO PURSUE US...
...THEN THERE IS OUR ADVANTAGE.
BEFORE THEY REACH AIZU AND THEY ARE ON THE ROAD...
...THAT IS OUR PERFECT CHANCE TO SEEK OUR REVENGE.
IF WE MISS THEM! THEY WILL ENTER AIZU...
INTO OUR FORTI-FIED CITY!
WE HAVE THE ARMY OF THE ASHINA CLAN!

OUR CHIEF OF THE ASHINA CLAN...
...YES.
WE HAVE ASHINA DÔHAKU.

HOWEVER LORD...
WHAT IS IT, GINSHIRÔ?

ON DEPARTURE...
GRIN
にやり
JYÔNOSHIN'S HEAD THAT TENMARU BROUGHT BACK TO US...
SHOULD WE MAKE IT A PRESENT FROM EDO TO THE AIZU ASHINA CLAN?

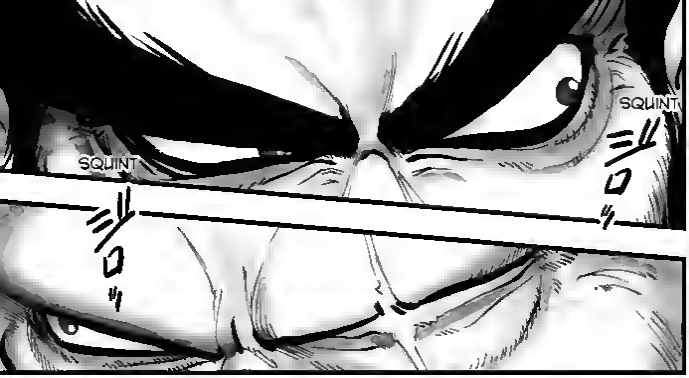
MOVE OUT!
CHING CHING
NGH...
...HM ...
HM.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER THAT, SIR.
GRIN
THEN ...

AIZU
会津
NIKKO
日光
SHIRAKAWA
白河
NASU
芦野
OTAWARA
大田原
KITSUREGAWA
喜連川
UTSUNOMIYA
宇都宮
SHINDEN
新田
KOGANO
古河
KASUKABE
粕壁
SENJU
千住
EDO
江戸
DADUM
DADUM
LIFT
ギュー、
LIFT
ギュー、
……

DADUM
DADUM
DADUM
DADUM

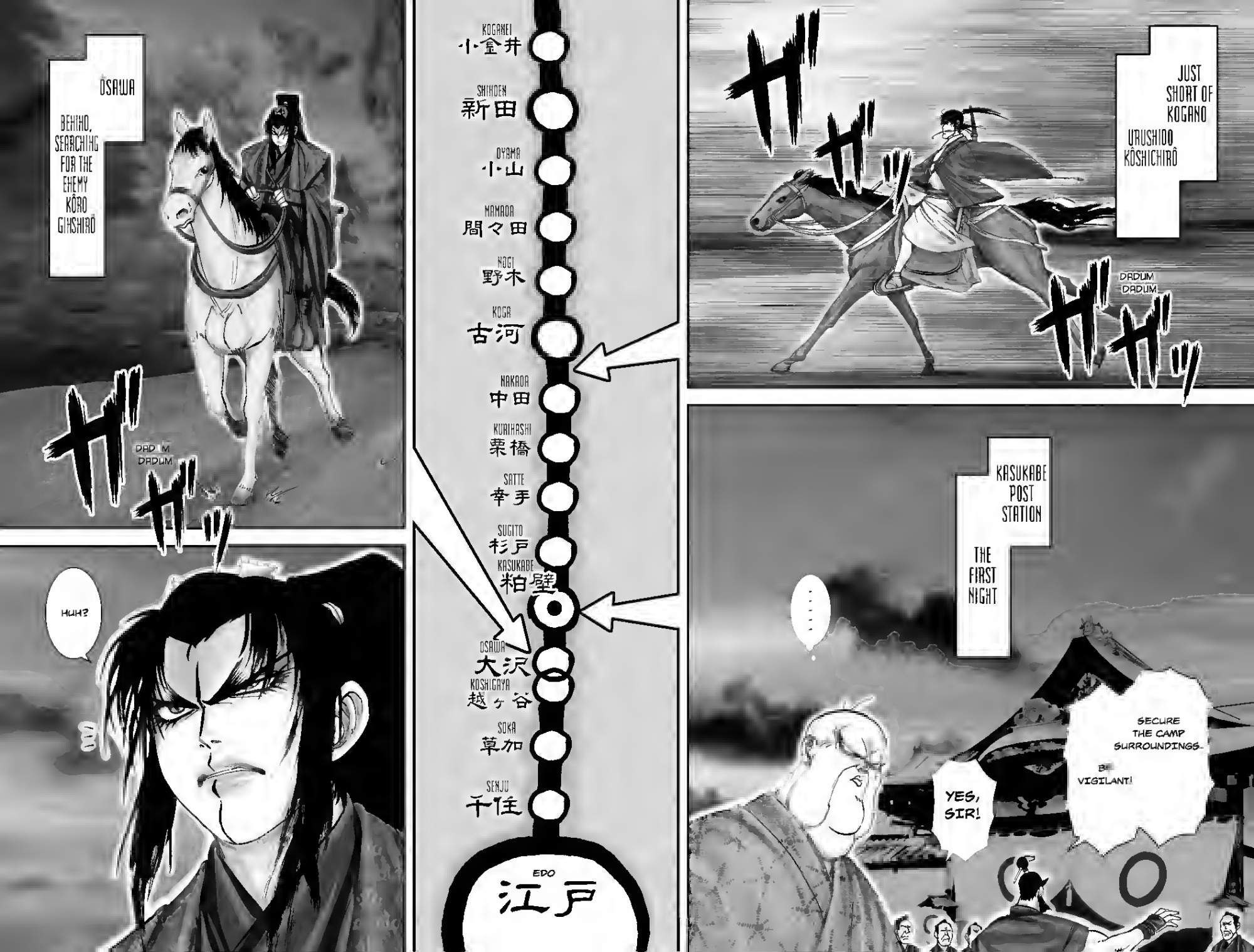
HOW WILL YOU SHOW YOURSELF?
HANNYA.
ギュー
CLENCH

STORY 39 END


SQUINT
SQUINT

LIFT
LIFT

DADUM
DADUM
DADUM
DADUM


ŌSAWA
BEHIND, SEARCHING FOR THE ENEMY
KŌRO GINSHIRŌ
DADUM DADUM
HUH?
KOGANEI 小金井
SHINDEN 新田
OYAMA 小山
MAMADA 間々田
NOGI 野木
KOGA 古河
NAKADA 中田
KURIHASHI 栗橋
SATTE 幸手
SUGITO 杉戸
KASUKABE 粕壁
ŌSAWA 大沢
KOSHIGAYA 越ヶ谷
SOKA 草加
SENJU 千住
EDO 江戸
JUST SHORT OF KOGANO
URUSHIDO KŌSHICHIRŌ
DADUM DADUM
KASUKABE POST STATION
THE FIRST NIGHT
.....
SECURE THE CAMP SURROUNDINGS.
BE VIGILANT!
YES, SIR!

STORY 40: JOURNEY NORTH

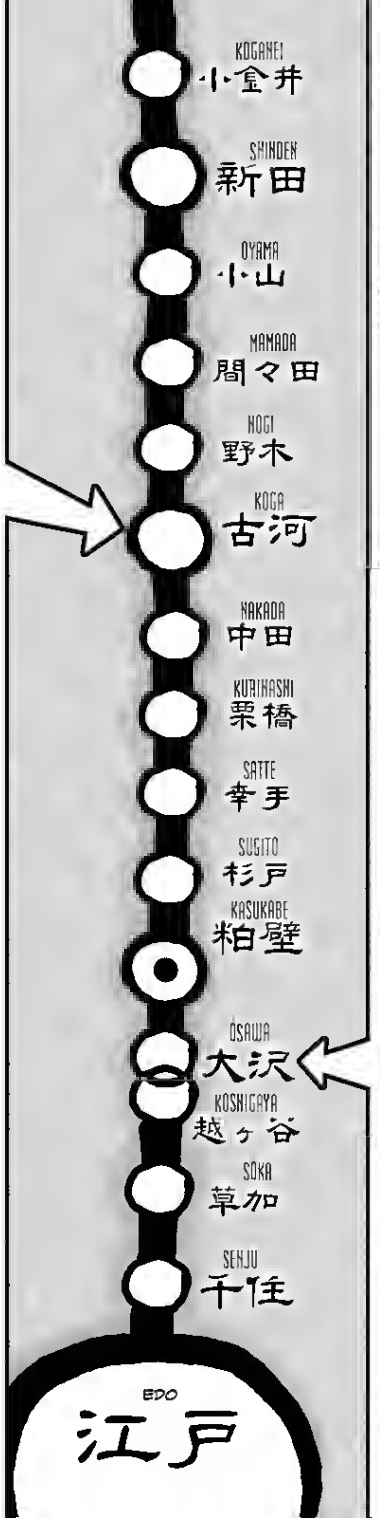
PRIESTS... WHERE ARE YOU HEADED?
GRIMACE
WE ARE HEADING TOWARD...
SLIP
...DEWAKA-MINOYAMA.

SLIP
GRIN
THAT'S RIGHT!
SLIP
GRIN
SLIP
SLIP

THUNK
I SEE...
GRIN
GRIN
GRIN

KOGANO POST STATION
THE SECOND NIGHT
WHEN...

I WONDER WHO DID IT...
THIS DOESN'T BODE WELL...
HMMM


KOGANEI 小金井
SHINDEN 新田
OYAMA 小山
MAMADA 間々田
NOGI 野木
KOGA 古河
NAKADA 中田
KURIHASHI 栗橋
SATTE 幸手
SUGITO 杉戸
KASUKABE 粕壁
OSAWA 大沢
KOSHIGAYA 越ヶ谷
SOKA 草加
SENJU 千住
EDO 江戸

GAH
OH
OH MY
!!

YOU TWO.
TAKE OFF YOUR HATS.
GRIND

HANNYA MASK...
QUIVER
キラ
QUIVER
キラ

TAKE IT DOWN STRAIGHT AWAY! QUICKLY!
H-HE?
THEY'RE HERE?!

THUNK

...
TUG

TAKE THE HAT OFF NOW!
GRRR
...WHAT'S THE MATTER?

CLICK
.....
?!
DO DO
DO DO
GINSHIRÔ!!
THE ENEMY CAME AROUND THE FRONT AND AMBUSHED US!
COME QUICK!
DO DO DO

UGH...
HANNYA...
GRIT
WHAT ?!
AT THE KASUKABE BASE CAMP THEY DISPLAYED ONE OF THEIR UGLY HANNYA!
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
OUR LORD IS OVERCOME WITH FEAR!
WE HAVE TO GO, GINSHIRO!

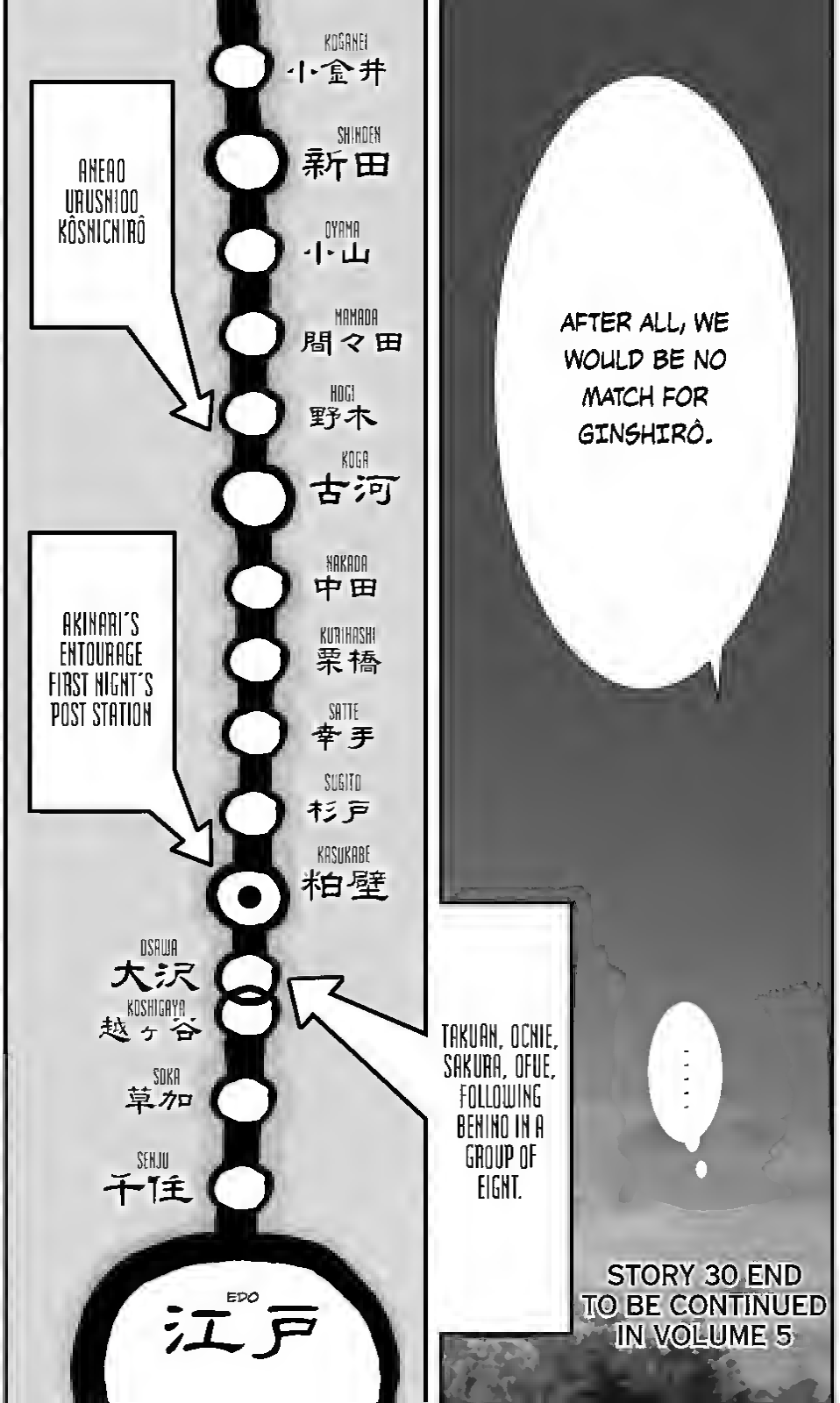
QUICKLY!
YES!
DO DO DO DO
...

THAT WAS VERY CLOSE...
...I DON'T KNOW.

I WAS WORRIED FOR A MOMENT THEN...
PRIEST JUJÔ
FWOOP
WHY.
WE COULD RELY ON JYÛBEI, WHO WENT AHEAD.
PRIEST RYÛÔ
THE PLAN TO SPLIT INTO TWO PARTIES...
HAS STARTED WELL.
PRIEST SHÔ-CHIKU
WITH US GETTING A LITTLE HOT UNDER THE COLLAR...
...IT WAS JYÛBEI'S PUTTING UP THE HANNYA THAT SAVED OUR LIVES!
PRIEST SHINKA
...IF WE HAD HAD TO LIFT UP OUR HATS THEN...
.....

I WOULD HAVE CUT HIM DOWN!
CLINK
カキ
I'M MORE THAN READY!
THUNK
トン
I THINK IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE FUN TO HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED, TOO!
CHING
カキーン
I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SHOW MY FACE TO JYUBEI.
IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU LADIES
WAIT. I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU ARE FEELING! BUT DON'T BE HASTY!

TAKUAN-SAMA.
UMM...I'M SORRY TO HAVE CAUSED YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE.
...HOWEVER, YOU THREE...
.....


KOGANEI
小金井
SHINDEN
新田
OYAMA
小山
MAMADA
間々田
HOGI
野木
KOGA
古河
NAKADA
中田
KURIHASHI
栗橋
SATTE
幸手
SUGITO
杉戸
KASUKABE
粕壁
OSAWA
大沢
KOSHIGAYA
越ヶ谷
SOKA
草加
SENJU
千住
EDO
江戸
ANEAO URUSHIOO KÔSHICHIRÔ
AKINARI'S ENTOURAGE FIRST NIGHT'S POST STATION
TAKUAN, OCHIE, SAKURA, OFUE, FOLLOWING BENINO IN A GROUP OF EIGHT.
AFTER ALL, WE WOULD BE NO MATCH FOR GINSHIRÔ.
.....
STORY 30 END
TO BE CONTINUED
IN VOLUME 5

about the authors

FŪTARO YAMADA

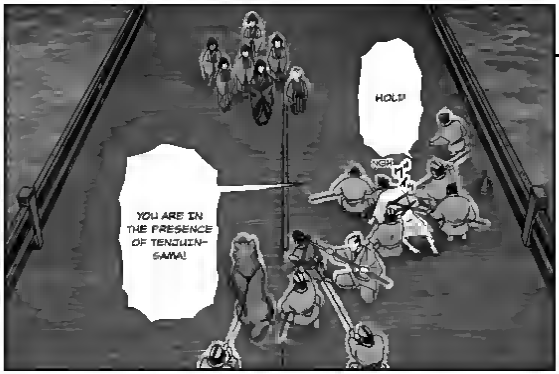
Born in 1922 in Hyogo Prefecture, Fūtaro Yamada made his debut as a novelist while still a student at Tokyo Medical University. Yamada was known for his mystery novels such as *Ganchuu No Akuma*. Later, his Ninja Scrolls series became wildly popular. He penned a wide body of literature, including the period piece *Makaitensei*, as well as several collections of essays such as *Ato Senkai No Banmeshi* and *Ningen Rinjyuu Zukan*. He passed away on July 28, 2001.

MASAKI SEGAWA

Masaki Segawa made his debut in 1997 with the series *Senma Monogatari*, which ran in the weekly comic *Morning*. In 1998, he began his long-running *Uppers* magazine series *Onigiri Jyuuzou*, which ended in the year 2000. This is his second-longest-running series and his first adaptation. He loves cats and watermelon. He currently resides in Funabashi.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.



Tenjuin-sama, page 68

Tenjuin's other name was Senhime. She was the eldest daughter of the second shogun of the Tokugawa period, Tokugawa Hidetada (the third son of Tokugawa Ieyasu). Senhime was married twice but lost both husbands. After the death of her second husband she became a Buddhist nun and took the name Tenjuin. Her dramatic and tragic life has been the subject of many legends in Japan.

***Rônin*, page 69**

Rônin were masterless samurai. A samurai could become masterless from the fall of his master or from displeasing his master. Some *rônin* would find the chance to serve a new master and others would turn to crime.

WE ARE NOT OF THE KATÔ FAMILY!
MY NAME IS GU... INU! INUIWA JIYÔNTARÔ
MY COMPANION IS CALLED INUKAWA SHAKUNO-SUKE WE ARE BOTH RÔNIN!
I HAVE TO FEIGN IGNO-RANCE!

Dog and monkey, page 72

Literally what he is saying is "dog and monkey." In Japan these animals are seen as completely incompatible, so this is the equivalent of "cat and dog" in English.

Tôkeiji temple, page 73

The Tôkeiji temple in Kamakura was a sanctuary for women seeking refuge from violent husbands. It was at the time very difficult for women to obtain a divorce; however, this temple allowed women to become officially divorced after remaining there for a period of three years.

THIS SPRING...
WITH THE KATÔ FAMILY'S DOGS IN FRONT...
THEY FORCED THEMSELVES INTO THE TÔKEIJI TEMPLE IN KAMAKURA AND COMMITTED INHUMANE ATROCITIES.

Ôtemon, page 79

The Ôtemon was the main gate of Edo and thus the busiest. Jyônoshin is distressed because it means that many people will see them being humiliated.

Hara-kiri, page 92

Hara-kiri, or ritual suicide, is also known as seppuku. Hara-kiri literally means "slitting your belly." It's quite a foul way in Japanese of referring to ritual suicide.

"Dog and Monkey Tôkaiji Temple," page 102

Please see previous note on "dog and monkey."

Takuan, page 103

Takuan was a major figure in the development of Zen Buddhism. He was a prolific writer and his influence can still be found in modern-day Zen Buddhism. He is also well known for bringing the spirit of Zen Buddhism to all parts of life, including swordsmanship.

***Niyozechikusho habbodaishin*, page 142**

This line comes from the Japanese classic *Nansō Satomi Hakkenden* first published in 1814. Yoshizane offers his daughter's hand in marriage as a reward for anyone who can kill his sworn enemy, returning with his severed head. In the end, his faithful dog kills the man, and Fusehime obediently accepts the dog as her husband. When she does so her beads with the eight Confucian virtues inscribed on them change their characters to the ones that Takuan speaks. Later Fusehime commits suicide, but each of the beads are then found clutched in the hands of sons born to families whose names all begin with the character for dog.

***Ri*, page 175**

An old Japanese measurement of length equivalent to approximately 2.44 miles.

Post stations and lodgings, page 184

There were many post stations (*shukuba*) established along the five main traveling routes by the government. These post stations were places where travelers could rest on their journeys. At these stations there would also be official lodgings (*honjin*) reserved for government officials. Many of these official lodgings were in fact personal residences of village or town leaders as will be seen later on in this volume.